

Ind. Cities & towns - Terre Haute
Indiana Gazetteer File

TERRE HAUTE

"Terre Haute, the seat of justice of Vigo county, situated on a high bank of the Wabash, from 50 to 60 feet above the river, and 15 or 20 feet above Fort Harrison Prairie in the rear of the town. The name The population in 1830 was 600, in 1834 it was estimated at 900, and it is now about 3,500. Among the public buildings are spacious and convenient churches, for the Methodists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Catholics, Baptists, Universalists, and Lutherans, a fine court-house, a town hall, a branch of the State Bank, a large and well finished county seminary, and several spacious and well kept hotels, and the dwelling houses amount to over 600, of which about half are brick, and many are built with much taste. The retail stores and groceries are about 60 in number, and at least 30,000 hogs are annually slaughtered and packed at Terre Haute. The Wabash and Erie canal is now completed to the town, and the railroad progressing with much spirit towards Indianapolis and Richmond will add much to its business and importance."

Indiana gazetteer. Indpls., Chamberlain, 1850. p.398.

"Terre-Haute, pronounced ter-haut, a large and flourishing post town, and the seat of justice of Vigo county. It is situated on a beautiful high ground, on the east bank of the Wabash river. It was laid off in 1813, and was established as the seat of justice in 1818. In 1830 it contained 600 inhabitants, and the increase since that time, is estimated at about one hundred annually, making at this time a population of about 900. The town site was originally a skirt of woodland, having the river on one side and a large prairie on the other, and rising gradually from the river bank. This town possesses some peculiar advantages. Its distance from Vincennes places commercial competition out of the question; and the constant intercourse with the townson the river, above and below, and with those of Putnam and Clay counties, as well as the neighboring villages west of the river, can be productive of no other effects than mutual kindness and reciprocal interest; and the National Road crossing the river at this place, opens an important trade from both the east and the west. The town now contains two wholesale houses, one confined to the dry-goods business, and the other to groceries; there are ten retail drygoods stores, six groceries, two drug stores, six lawyers, five physicians, a printing office, three hotels, several boarding houses, and a great number of mechanics of almost all descriptions. The public buildings are a large and commodious brick courthouse, a jail and a school house."

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Historical Tour of Terre Haute and Vicinity

by DOROTHY J. CLARK.

To me, autumn in Indiana is the most beautiful season of the year. The crisp days and frosty nights soon turn the trees into a riot of color. This is a favorite time for many Hoosiers to get in the family car on weekends and drive out into the countryside.

In addition to seeing the beautiful scenery, I like to have a definite goal when taking a drive. So, may I suggest an historical tour of some of our local points of interest?

There used to be a favorite expression, "You can't get there from here," and all routing directions had to start at the Court House. So, we'll start our tour at the Vigo County Court House.

To get in the proper mood, try to be there one hour (any hour) to hear the old Vigo bell in the Court House tower strike. This bell was a gift from Col. Francis Vigo for whom our county was named.

Drive north on Second street from the courthouse. Here, in the low level, was one of the turning basins for the old Wabash and Erie Canal of the 1840's. Turn left on Chestnut street to First street, then north to Sycamore street, and on your left enter the parking lot of the American Can Company. You are now on the site of the old Indian Orchard Burying ground where many of our very first citizens were buried, here on the banks of the Wabash River.

Go east on Sycamore street to Third street. Turn left (north) on Third street to Locust street, the former site of Sibleytown. On the east side was Sibley Subdivision. On the southwest corner is the little brick Sibley Schoolhouse now plastered over with concrete. This location is verified in the 1874 Atlas of Vigo County.

Oldest Cemetery.

Continue north on Third street to Woodlawn cemetery, laid out in 1839, the oldest city cemetery in Terre Haute. Veterans of all the wars—the American Revolution, the War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, and the Korean Conflict—are buried here. As you go through the entrance gate at Fourth avenue, notice the young oak tree just to your right, which was recently planted by the local D.A.R. Chapter in memory of the two Revolutionary soldiers buried here, John Hamilton and Joshua Patrick.

only in *Insert*



Dorothy J. Clark

2. Battle of Fort Harrison, one of the last battles of the War of 1812, when the courageous little group of white settlers and soldiers managed to hold off the Indian attack. Here, too, you may see the old bed of the Wabash & Erie Canal and the tow path used in the 1840's and 50's.

Leaving Fort Harrison, go east on the Fort Harrison Road to North Thirteenth Street, turn north and drive to the end of the pavement. Continue north on this gravel road and you are now traveling on the old Durkee Ferry Road, which led from the ferry at Tecumseh on the other side of the Wabash River to Markle's Mill. About a quarter of a mile from the end of the pavement, you'll find a distinct bend in the road. The farmhouse of the Curvey family is now standing on the site where the men were buried who were killed during the Battle of Fort Harrison. (For the story of the "why" of this historic bend in the road, read my column on Drummer Davis which appeared October 6.)

Retrace your route back to the pavement and turn east on county road 24W. Look for the old Denny Cemetery on the left side of the road. It is completely overgrown, but the name, "Denny," and the date, "1812," are to be found on the entrance posts.

When you reach U. S. Highway 41, at the intersection known as the "Cider Stop," drive north past Roselawn Cemetery until you reach Stop 20. Turn east on 41-E for one mile, left one-half mile on 3N, right 4/10 on 49E to a marked post. To reach the old camping grounds of the Indians, turn left on a field lane at this marked post. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Libbert, present owners of this property, will be only too happy to point out the interesting spots in this area, such as the camping site, the pottery hollow, Spring Creek where flint and Indian artifacts were to be found, etc.

Retrace your route back to road 3N, turn right on road 21E, and just after crossing the C. & E. I. railroad tracks, you will see the old Ostrander homestead (com-

temporaries of the Markle's) on the right side of the road down a private lane. This home is now the property of Mr. Joseph Wagner. It is typical of the log cabin which, as the family grew and became more prosperous, was enlarged, weatherboarded, and converted into a comfortable farm home.

Continue on this country road to U. S. Highway 41, turn south (left) to North Terre Haute, and at the intersection stoplight turn left (east) on Park Ave. to the bridge. Here you will see the remains of the famous old Markle's Mill (built in 1816 and destroyed by fire in September, 1938).

Markle Homestead.

Across the road is the old Markle homestead, built about the same time as the mill by Major Abraham Markle, and now in the process of being restored by the present owner, Tom Larison. Here many picturesque travelers were welcomed with true Hoosier hospitality in the early days.

Before the Civil War, Markle's Mill was used as a link in the Underground Railroad to assist fugitive slaves escaping to Canada. During the Civil War, Confederate prisoners were confined in the cellar of the Markle house in six rooms with iron bars on the windows. All these things are still to be seen. Also notice the hand-made bricks manufactured on the premises. All the lumber was cut and seasoned on the property.

Drive back west on Park avenue to Fruitridge avenue, and turn south past the Markle Cemetery, also overgrown. Here you will see some very early tombstones. There is a legend relating that the first burial in this cemetery was that of a Negro slave in 1805.

Between Haythorn avenue and Fort Harrison Road, on the left side as you drive south on Fruitridge avenue, you pass a two-story brick house, formerly the Myer home, now owned by Mr. Byron R. Smith. This home is an excellent example of an early type brick farm house built in 1876. The date is on the front of the home.

Continue on Fruitridge avenue to its intersection with U. S. Highway 40 at Wabash avenue. Here was established a toll-gate for travel on the old National Road.

Now that I have you back to Fruitridge and Wabash avenues, this will be a good place to stop, but I will continue the tour in my column next week. We will continue from this location and see many more interesting landmarks in this history-filled country of ours.

To Be Continued Next Week—
October 27.

(Insert)

Drive in, turn left to the circle, and see the monument erected to the memory of the Confederate soldiers who died while being held prisoner here during the Civil War.

Leaving Woodlawn Cemetery, turn north of Third street to Maple avenue, and east on Maple avenue to North Seventh street. On the northwest corner of this intersection was Camp Vigo, used during the Civil War days for training, etc. In addition, an early fair-grounds was located here, just west of Seventh street and north of Maple avenue.

Go north on Seventh street to Ft. Harrison Road and turn left a short distance and enter the grounds of the Elk's Country Club, the site of old Fort Harrison built in 1811. On the west side of the present clubhouse is a large marker erected in 1912 to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the famous battle at Fort.

While here, look south down the river and try to imagine the arrival of the flat boats of the pioneers with their families and all their belongings. Think of the famous

Ref. to Col. 2

Terre Haute Landmarks Identified With Terre Haute Over the Years

By A. R. Markle.

FEW PEOPLE realize that we still have with us some of the earliest buildings erected in Terre Haute. Many others of even earlier dates have been gone for many years.

Among those which have long disappeared was the house built by Dr. Charles Modesitt immediately after he purchased the lots at the first sale in October, 1816. This was a small two-room house which stood on high ground south of the present jail and was built of small logs hardly larger than three or four inches in diameter.

Across Ohio street from this building at the site of the present jail was a large two story frame house, built by Curtis Gilbert in 1818. This building was moved to the southern part of the city and somewhere there may be part of it still standing. To this building Curtis Gilbert moved from his location at the fort, where in connection with his store he had been a military postmaster. With him came his official papers and he still acted as postmaster until the appointment of John M. Coleman as postmaster. Tradition had it that Coleman's office was in his hat, a tall beaver "stove pipe" of early days. As little or no postage was prepaid in those days he is said to have delivered the mail and collected the postage from the recipient.

The first Masonic lodge was held in this building and with the establishment of the county, Mr. Gilbert served as the recorder, auditor, clerk of the court, and in addition to these offices, he probably represented every other office in the early county organization.

Gilman's Office.

At the northeast corner of First and Mulberry streets stood until recent years the small brick two-room house which was the home of our first pork packer, Benjamin Ichabod Gilman, and here also was his office from which he carried on the business of dressing pork and shipping it down the river to ocean-going ships at New Orleans. This was demolished a few years ago and is now the headquarters of the Motor Truck firm. Across First street on the southwest corner stood a large two story brick residence, built and occupied by Jacob Lyman. This, too, is gone with the ages. On the west side of Second street between Wabash

and Ohio, once stood a solid block of early buildings built in the first half century of the life of Terre Haute, but which were demolished for the erection of the present city hall.

An Early Tavern.

At the southeast corner of First and Wabash Henry Redford built his famous tavern, The Eagle and Lion. This was a large two-story log building with a wagon yard, stables, and other outbuildings which afforded accommodations to the travelers coming into or passing through Terre Haute. This building was almost finished for the first celebration of Independence Day in 1817.

The participants at the banquet drank something like sixty toasts while they partook of the meals and the drinks and listened to the outpouring of patriotic oratory. The reported noted in the Western Sun of Vincennes that the doors and windows were not yet in place but withstanding this, guests were being accommodated.

At the northwest corner of First and Ohio stood the Clark House, an imposing two-story brick of which only the foundation and part of the walls still exist. In the Court House square stood our original Court House started in 1818 but not fully completed for another five years. It was torn down in 1867 when the offices were moved to the northeast corner of Third and Ohio which building still stands.

Buildings Still Stand.

On the east side of First street between Walnut and Poplar streets is an old house built by Amory Kinney about 1821. Here in the attic of this building our first newspaper was printed. On Poplar street on the southeast corner at Thirteenth and One-half street stands the Preston House built about 1823 by George W. Deweese. This building is of stone and has weathered the years fairly well.

In the first half century in the growth of Terre Haute, the town grew away from the Court House Square. Many changes took place in the arrangement of many buildings because all lots in the original town faced east or west except those on the north and south sides of the public square. On one of these lots on the south side of Ohio street the Branch Bank of the State of Indiana was erected in 1836. This building is now known as Memorial Hall. At the expiration of its charter in 1858, it became the property of

the Bank of the State. In the next ten years the Bank of the State moved to a new building at the southwest corner of Fifth and Wabash. This building was in three parts, the middle one of which extended back to the alley with an ell reaching out to Fifth street on the rear. This is a hardware store now and has been for fifty years. The west room of this structure was in early days the confectionary of W. H. Sage and Sons, and until about fifty years ago, carried on a very popular dining room on the second floor.

The other buildings in this half block are of later construction, but west of these from the alley to Fourth street, now occupied by a department store, was built a little later than the one at the southeast corner. This was for a time the banking house of the Bank of Southern Indiana. In this corner building, in the offices and largely under the same management, was founded the First National Bank, in July of 1863. The corner location

was in earlier years occupied by a large frame building which housed the recruits for the Mexican War, until they left for service. West of this on the south side of Wabash from Fourth street to the alley was the Warren block, built by Chauncey M. Warren in 1853. The first tenant on the corner was the Bank of Southern Indiana, which moved across the street on the completion of that building. The room at the west end of this block was occupied by S. H. Potter, who dealt in hardware, harness, and farm implements. In later years, about 1890, it became the undertaking establishment of P. J. Ryan. In all probability it was the beginning of the process of embalming of the dead in Terre Haute. The first one here to practice this profession was F. M. Rogerson, whose apartment upstairs was reached by an outside stairway. Preceding Rogerson's occupancy, this was the office of John T. Scott, father of our contemporary attorney, George A. Scott. One day a runaway team put an end to this stairway, leaving only one of those once frequent structures still standing. West of the Warren block, extending from the alley to the corner, was once known as the Linton Building. At the west end of this row was another of our very early hardware stores. At the northeast corner of First and Wabash, George W. Bement started in the wholesale grocery business in 1851, but in the rest of this block the buildings are of much later date. At the northeast corner of Second and Wabash is a large three-story building, the upper

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T.H. Markle

July 18, 1953
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The corner room was the first location of Max Joseph, who had a clothing store. His son, Leo Joseph, founded his fortune as a bootblack for the party of his father's friends who gathered there on Sunday. For 25 cents or so thus accumulated kept him in spending money for the rest of the week.

Most of the buildings are of later days, but on the corner where is now the Shandy Building was the early home of Judge Farrington. Here, in 1837, the bishop of Vincennes celebrated the first mass of the Catholic Church in Terre Haute.

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On the north side of Wabash from Third street to the alley east still stand what was originally known as Phoenix Row. It gained its name from the fabled bird which rose from the ashes.

In December of 1850 a fire destroyed the buildings now occupied by this block, all of them being frame except the corner building, McQuilkin's Coffee House, which was brick. It was rebuilt by several owners and reopened much as it now stands. In December of 1850, in the report of the fire, it is noted that Union Row was saved because of its brick construction and iron shutters.

An early newspaper, dated March 5, 1850, noted that the frame buildings of Dutch Row were being demolished and on March 12 it noted that excavation had been started for a modern three-story building to be called Union Row.

In the third row from the alley now known as Goldie's Restaurant was the location of the firm of Ludowici and Hulman, dealers in wholesale and retail liquors, and general merchandise. Jacob B. Ludowici was then forty-nine years old and he invested \$1,400 in business while his partner, Francis P. Hulman, aged twenty-nine, furnished \$700. Three years later their partnership was dissolved and Francis withdrew, announcing that he would open a new stock of goods which he had on sale in a frame building "on National Road street opposite the Post Office." The Post Office, of course, was banished many years ago but research developed that at an earlier date "the Post Office has moved this day to National Road street opposite the Spinning Wheel." The Spinning Wheel was so named because of its large spinning wheel hanging in front of the store. This stood at the northeast corner of Fourth and Wabash and was demolished about 1869 for the erection of the Terre Haute Opera House. This burned in 1896 and the present building was erected on the ruins of that half block. On the northeast corner of Fifth and Wabash

stood a large three-story building whose front was divided into three rooms. This was taken over by Francis Hulman in 1857. The east room, however, was one time occupied by a hardware store and the middle room was the publishing house of an early newspaper. In 1853 Francis occupied what was later known as the Savoy Theatre. Early in 1858, Francis left his half brother, Herman, in charge of the business, and after making his will, which was common practice in those days before risking the perils of the deep, visited his old home in Germany with his wife and daughter. As he left Europe for America his family as well as several hundred other passengers were lost in the burning of the steamer Austria, at sea. Herman carried out the terms of the will settling all of the bequests. He took over the business and continued in those premises until the firm moved to its present location in 1893. The building was then demolished in 1894 and the Havens and Geddes Company built a department store on the corner. Fire destroyed this store in 1899 and the present building was erected the following year.

There are still a few buildings built in the 1850's which are still occupied in the business district of Terre Haute and these are certainly worth mention.

The Havens and Geddes depart-

ment store was the scene of Terre Haute's worst fire. The store, a five-story modern structure, was decked out in Christmas trimmings when on Dec. 19 about 5 o'clock in the evening, the Christmas trimmings in the west window burst into flames. In moments the entire store was a roaring furnace and the elevator boy, Claude Herbert, stuck to his post. He was asphyxiated and died. Three other deaths occurred in the fire: Katie Maloney, a clerk who jumped from the second or third floor; John Renzenbrink, a member of the Sixes' hose company, and a member of the Nehf family, who died while trying to remove the stock of the Swope and Nehf jewelry store.

The Havens and Geddes retail store was entirely destroyed as was the wholesale house of the same company on Fifth street north of the department store. The partners, Elisha Havens and Robert Geddes closed their affairs here and moved to Indianapolis, where the new business continued to thrive for many years.

Some Terre Haute Landmarks Recall Frontier Days of Long Past

By A. R. Markle.

It may surprise some of the present generation to know that there are plenty of buildings still standing in Terre Haute that are over nearly or over 100 years old and still being used.

The oldest structure of any kind still used and occupied is the one on the east side of First street just north of Poplar street. While we cannot fix the exact date on which it was built, it was occupied by John W. Osborn by 1823.

It is a wide one-story house, with no pretension of a second story, yet it is known that the first issue of the Western Register and Terre Haute Advertiser was published in the small attic of this house which could only be reached by an outside stairway.

Besides the editor, John Osborn, there was one journeyman typesetter, George Dougherty, and three apprentices, Samuel Bookins, Charles I. Jacobs and his uncle, O. J. Smith. Samuel Bookins later edited the Vigo county section of Beckwith's Vigo and Parke Counties History. O. J. Smith founded the Gazette about 50 years later. He left Terre Haute for Chicago where he started one of the first stereotype plants there, Western Newspaper Union.

He mailed material to his subscribers for a number of newspaper pages for which the type had been set in his plant, and thus a small country paper of four pages printed locally could become an issue of many pages at little extra cost. The equipment consisted of an old type wood and iron Ramage press operated by two apprentices, one of whom used two buckskin bags filled with feathers to ink the type, while another operated a lever and screw which made the impression. The editor himself handled the form and the paper. This was a very slow process but there were only a few hundred copies struck off each week. Then so much of the copy was kept standing as it bore the symbol "f" (till forbid).

Osborn finally sold the paper to Thomas Dowling in 1832. No complete file has been preserved, but the Fairbanks Library has a file which is fairly complete. This is the property of the Vigo Historical Society loaned to them many years ago by a son of that first apprentice, Samuel Bookins.

Stewart House.

The first building on the west side of Second street north of Wabash was at one time the Terre Haute Hotel. This building was built by Matthew Stewart in 1833. After a fire in 1842, it was rebuilt and became known as the

Stewart House. Still later it was bought by P. J. Ryan who had a livery stable and undertaking establishment there for many years. It is now occupied by an automobile accessory house.

Phoenix Row.

On December 20, 1850, fire destroyed the buildings on the north side of Wabash from Third to the alley on the east and also those on the east side of Third street as far as the fire department building. The owners of that property got together and built a new building on the site to be called Phoenix Row. A current newspaper today remarked that the Union Row was saved because it was of brick construction with iron shutters. It was finished for occupancy by the first of 1852 not 1850.

On the upper floor extending about half of the block, with its entrance on Third street, was Corinthian Hall. With a large stage at the east end, it could seat nearly 300 people and was a highly favored place of entertainment by concerts, dances and theatrical performances. It was opened with an entertainment of concert and dance on January 10, 1852.

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At the northeast corner

and Wabash a three-story building was built and occupied by George W. Bement in 1851. This building has seen very few changes. Its front on Wabash and First street with its roof line have been unchanged for over 100 years. Bement moved from here in 1868 to the building now occupied by Silverstein Bros. The old location was taken over

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Some Terre Haute Landmarks

Recall Frontier Days of Long Past

By A. R. Markle.

It may surprise some of the present generation to know that there are plenty of buildings still standing in Terre Haute that are either nearly or over 100 years old and still being used.

The oldest structure of any kind still used and occupied is the house on the east side of First street just north of Poplar street. While we cannot fix the exact date on which it was built, it was occupied by John W. Osborn by July, 1823.

It is a wide one-story house, with no pretention of a second floor, yet it is known that the first issue of the Western Register and Terre Haute Advertiser was published in the small attic of this house which could only be reached by an outside stairway.

Besides the editor, John Osborn, there was one journeyman typesetter, George Dougherty, and three apprentices, Samuel B. Gookins, Charles I. Jacobs and his uncle, O. J. Smith. Samuel Gookins later edited the Vigo county section of Beckwith's "Vigo and Parke Counties History." O. J. Smith founded the old Gazette about 50 years later. He left Terre Haute for Chicago where he started one of the first stereotype plants there, Western Newspaper Union.

He mailed material to his subscribers for a number of newspaper pages for which the type had been set in his plant, and thus the small country paper of four pages printed locally could become an issue of many pages at little extra cost. The equipment consisted of an old type wood and iron Ramage press operated by two apprentices, one of whom used two buckskin bags filled with feathers to ink the type, while another operated a lever and screw which made the impression. The editor himself handled the form and the paper. This was a very slow process but there were only a few hundred copies struck off each week. Then too much of the copy was kept standing as it bore the symbol "tf" (till forbid).

Osborn finally sold the paper to Thomas Dowling in 1832. No complete file has been preserved, but the Fairbanks Library has a file which is fairly complete. This is the property of the Vigo Historical Society loaned to them many years ago by a son of that same first apprentice, Samuel Gookins.

Stewart House.

The first building on the west side of Second street north of Wabash was at one time the Terre Haute Hotel. This building was built by Matthew Stewart in 1833. After a fire in 1842, it was rebuilt and became known as the Stewart House. Still later it was bought by P. J. Ryan who had a livery stable and undertaking establishment there for many years. It is now occupied by an automobile accessory house.

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Early Landmarks Which Were Part of Terre Haute History

By A. R. Markle.

Some of the thriving business locations in Terre Haute today were landmarks of the early day which indicated the growth and development of Terre Haute. The names and locations will recall many memories of the building up of the young city.

Idaho was the name given for the community of Seventh and Hulman street. It was sort of a first and last chance for incoming and outgoing trade in the early town. The Fromme general store occupied the southeast corner. The old well and watering trough was a boon to the horse and buggy travel, and the old Fromme grocery carried large stocks of commodities identified with the time and with the needs of city and country folks. The Coordes blacksmith shop occupied the northwest corner, later the location of the W. R. White general store. On the southwest corner was the Vaughn poultry and egg yards and store house.

On the northeast corner was the Donnelly drug store, a business which grew and developed under five generations of the Donnelly family, and which is still operated under that name to this day.

Another pioneer development was Twelve Points, which grew and prospered at the intersection of Thirteenth street, Lafayette avenue and what later became Maple avenue. The community grew up around the Petri saloon, which served for over a half century as "the first and last chance" on the north bound travel at that extremity of Terre Haute.

Among the pioneer industries long identified with the history of Terre Haute were the T. B. Johns saw mill and lumber yard at Water and Chestnut streets, which is about the site of the present American Can Company, at present one of the modern and most expansive of the city's industry. The floating area of saw logs there was a great swimming resort for the youth of that day. The Johns family was prominent in business here in the 'Sixties and Seventies, and T. B. Johns built himself an imposing residence at what became Sixth and Oak streets. This residence later became the home of B. G. Cox, the Bogart family and subsequently became the home of the Woman's Department Club, as we know it today.

One of the imposing residences of that period was that of Colonel Richard W. Thompson, who became secretary of the Navy under President Rutherford B. Hayes. Colonel Thompson also had a country place southeast of the city known as Spring Hill.

The town house became the home of the fabulous Sam McDonald who devoted his abundant capital to the support of stables of trotting and pacing horses, and regarding whom there were many fantastic stories about McDonald and his associates and boisterous guests.

On the east side of the National Road one of the landmarks was Dick Houseman's National Road House which experienced many changes during its existence, and for some years was known as Geisselbrecht's vaudeville house. In addition was an old fashioned beer garden and gasthaus, or tavern in the earlier sense of the word, and this for years was a point of call for the stage coaches and general traffic on the National Road, from Baltimore, Md., to St. Louis. President Van Buren made a notable trip, and President Lincoln and Senator Dan W. Voorhees are said to have had a notable reunion in one of these same stage coaches. It was at Plainfield on this trip when the stage coach carrying VanBuren got stuck in the mud on the National Road and overturned. One of the notable spots along the National Road was the McKeen farm, now known as Edgewood Grove. William R. McKeen, then president of the Vandalia Railroad, had a fine residence there, had stables of fine horses, and the area facing on the

National Road was a deer park. Perhaps Mr. McKeen did not know it then, but he was leading the movement for conservation of wildlife. Much of the same position was held by B. G. Cox, who owned Fruit Ridge avenue below what is now Poplar street Lake Fluviana.

Another large estate in those days was Warren Park, the home of William P. Ijams, and a stock farm of national repute. This was the home of the celebrated Axtell, and other notable performers in the Grand Circuit races for years.

On the national Road east of Terre Haute and on what is now the Rose Polytechnic site there was a beautiful and extensive farm, owned by the late Herman Hulman, which was his relaxation from his busy life in building up Hulman and Company, one of Terre Haute's foremost businesses even to the present time.

One spot of fond memories for Terre Haute was the old Early Grove, located on what became the site for Rea school on North Third Street opposite Woodlawn Cemetery. Here were held these celebrations of Fourth of July, on Memorial Day and the picnics of the Hobernians, The Turn Verein, the early reunions of the Civil War veterans and other events too numerous to mention.

Historic Landmarks (74)

Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Sunday, July 24, 1949.

Terre Haute Landmarks Which Once Graced the Public Square

By A. R. Markle.

The ground on which the present City Hall stands is closely related to the early history of Terre Haute. Some of the first business houses, even residences, once occupied this ground but are now gone, leaving only memory. At the northwest corner of Second and Ohio a low, long, brick building saw the birth of our banking institutions. Erected in the early thirties by Chauncey Rose who himself occupied the corner room, three of our early banks were organized there. The first was the Terre Haute branch of the State Bank of Indiana with a 25-year charter. For a year and a half their banking house was in one of the four rooms of this building, from which they moved in 1836 to the building now known as Memorial Hall. Painted on one of the columns of this building is the statement "Erected in 1834" but the official reports of the branch bank filed with the auditor of the state at Indianapolis show in the first annual report "Value of banking house" that they paid rent that year and that they bought the lots on which this building stands in 1835 and in 1836 paid rent for a half year. The value of their real estate being given that year was \$1,000, while the following year they reported the value of the building of a much larger sum which was continued through the life of the bank.

Other Banks.

In another room in the old Rose building was organized the Prairie City Bank which later removed to its own property on the north side of Wabash just west of the Shandy building. Newspapers of the day refer to it and its remodeling as having an "iron front," evidently something new in Terre Haute, though it only consisted of the alteration of the front of the first floor. In still another room in this old Rose building was organized, in 1858, under the "free banking system" the Southern Bank of Indiana. The organizers were two brothers from Erie, Pa., and of roughly half a dozen other banks organized in Terre Haute under that system only this one survived; removing later to the new Warren block, they occupied the southwest corner of Fourth and Wabash until erection of the Sasseen building at the southeast corner where they were organized as the First National Bank of Terre Haute.

TOP OF OTHER
COLUMN

much of Terre Haute's early business. It in turn succeeded the old "Locust Corner" which burned and had succeeded the residence of Judge Farrington on the same corner. Back of it on the north side of the alley stands the Dole Building. The upper floor was first used as a lodge hall and for public entertainment. During the Civil War this was a military hospital and the lower floor was occupied by what is now the No. 4 fire company which is now in the city's own building on the opposite side of the street.

Phoenix Row.

On the north side of Wabash east of Third to the alley stands "Phoenix Row" which, like its mythical ancestor, rose out of the ashes which consumed the whole block back almost to the No. 4 engine house. Previously the corner had been occupied by the "Light Horse Harry" Tavern of Samuel McQuilkin, Terre Haute's second home for the traveling "man or beast." At this corner also was the banking house of McKeen and Minshall, successors to the private banking firm of McKeen and Tousey who had occupied the next room east. The fire occurred in December, 1850, and the new building was opened with a grand celebration in early January of 1852. Because of the proximity of the Court House the second floor of the buildings was a favorite location for the attorneys of the time and many famous names were once to be seen on the "shingles" hung out at the foot of the stairs. The same was true of both sides of Ohio street in the same half block. East of Phoenix Row from the alley to Fourth street was "Union Row," built in 1850 as a successor to a row of small frame buildings. Among the early tenants in this building were Ludowici and Hulman and after the dissolution of the partnership Ludowici remained here with his "Cincinnati Liquor Store" while Francis Hulman took the room on the opposite side of Wabash which is now the Savoy Theater. From here in 1857 he removed to the building at Fifth and Wabash which was demolished in 1894 for the erection of the Havens & Geddes Store which burned so disastrously in 1898. At the Fourth street corner of Union Row was Baur's Drug Store which was later to become Gulick and Berry, one of Terre Haute's oldest continuously occupied drug stores. Opposite Union Row was the Warren Block finished in 1853, the same year that the block on the south side of Wabash between Fifth and Sixth was erected, the east end of which was Ludowici's Hotel, later to become known as the National House.

Historic Landmarks
(TH)

Community Affairs File

Other Early Buildings.

Next north of the Rose building was a long series of three-story buildings erected between the late thirties and the middle forties. Here were many of our earliest merchants, some who had previously occupied other buildings in the same block which were destroyed by fire. Among the owners were Rufus St. John and John Boudinot, and among the tenants at an early date were R. S. Cox & Son, Ludowici & Hulman, and at the extreme north end Bonner, Reynolds & Early occupied a general merchandise store and in their place many of our early physicians had their offices. On the rear of this lot, facing Wabash, was the "Iron Store" of James McGregor, a canny Scotsman who later moved across the street where he carried on a hardware business for many years. He was Terre Haute's first millionaire and at the time that a tax of one dollar a gallon was levied on the manufacture of whiskey during the Civil War he was the fortunate owner of a million gallons of whiskey in storage. Naturally, all other manufacturers advanced the price on each gallon they made, and his, being already made, was tax free.

North Side of the Square.

At the northeast corner of Second stands the Early Block now occupied by the Indois Hotel. After the upper floors had been occupied for some years as a hotel under various names, an additional story was built on the front part and a series of store-rooms at the rear facing Second street. As for the exterior of this building, it is now very much the same after ninety years. On the lower floor at the corner was the store of Max Joseph, dealer in men's wear, the name of the store being one of the oldest in continuous service on Wabash avenue. On the west side a second floor window still has the old fashioned small window panes of those early days. Next east of this building was the Modesitt Building and east of it the block has changed very little. On the corner of Third the Shandy Building has in past years been faced with new brick but within it is the old Farrington block which housed so

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T.H. Historic Landmarks
26 Buildings In City
STAR 4-4-69
Torn Down In March

Mose Kassis, head of the city Department of Inspection, Thursday said 26 buildings in the city were demolished during the month of March.

Kassis said six of the condemned structures were torn down by the city and the rest were demolished by the Department of Urban Renewal and Indiana State University.

INDIANA ROOM
PAMPHLET FILE

Rowdy Hall Owner Lived Fast and Furious Life

By DOROTHY CLARK

Located on the east side of South Sixth Street and north of Farrington was an empty lot purchased by Henry D. Williams in 1852 on which he built a house before the year was out. It was soon to become known as Rowdy Hall.

The house was sold to Chauncey Rose in 1865, who sold it to Josephus Collett in 1870, who, in turn, sold it soon after to Sam McDonald, a newcomer to this city described as a wild young man banished by his family from his home in Baltimore.

Young McDonald made the house a scene of wild disorder with his boon companions who visited him there. Their female companions were imported from Baltimore for frequent visits.

He made extensive alterations in the house, adding a grand ballroom with two fireplaces. In some of the wild parties held there, his men visitors shot out the lights over the mantel and the marks still show in the marble where the bullets struck.

Historian C. C. Oakey in 1908 had this to say about McDonald, "His grandfather



DOROTHY J. CLARK

was General Samuel McDonald, distinguished as soldier and business man, who accumulated a great fortune to be scattered by son and grandson.

"William McDonald, so of the general, and Sam's father, was a sporting man of Baltimore, best known as owner of the famous Flora Temple, and owned a magnificent residence and estate of 360 acres almost within the city of Baltimore. The home was one of the finest and stateliest in Maryland. Before it were marble gates, shrouded by bronze lions, at which gatekeepers constantly stood to admit visitors to the splendid grounds which they guarded. The estate was tied up until William should be 35, but he died before that age, when his boy was 13.

"The son, Samuel, spent years in school in England and Germany, and on his return was made lieutenant-colonel of a Maryland militia regiment, the good associations and rigid discipline of which for a time kept him within the bounds of propriety. He fell from grace and a prolonged drinking bout caused the breaking of an engagement of three years' standing with a Baltimore girl.

A Demon When Drinking

"He came to Terre Haute in 1871 and bought both town and country property, and divided his time between the two places. He was a handsome young fellow, very courteous and gentlemanly when sober, but drink transformed him into a demon. He paid thirty thousand dollars for his country seat, and the extensive improvements alone cost over fifteen thousand. He was a collector of all kinds of livestock, very fine for the time, but not to be judged by extravagant prices paid for them. He had some trotting stock and fine hunting dogs, and everything he did was on a scale of magnificence which astonished the people of Terre Haute and Vigo.

"His home was Rowdy Hall, where unbridled license ruled. He was indifferent to public opinion and faluted his vices in public view, as he did his disreputable companions, male and female. Strange to say, he would not gamble further than to back his horses in the park. His train consisted of a Baltimore gambler, another fop, a private secretary, and a very faithful Irish attendant. While on a visit to Baltimore, young McDonald killed a noted gambler in a barroom quarrel, was indicted, tried and acquitted, his lawyer being the late Senator Whyte, his former guardian (who never lost a case).

"After a severe spell of illness he formed good resolutions and moved all of his 6th St. belongings to his farm (the old Stewart farm). He soon tired of hunting, fishing, kennels and stables; and the last few weeks of his life was a prolonged debauch, and he died alone except for the hired help in his house, in the most dreary and neglected surroundings, after a wild, fevered delirium."

Except for his Negro servant, he died alone on Aug. 20, 1877, aged 28 years, and his body was brought home from his farm in Lost Creek Twp.

His sisters from Baltimore sold the property to Col. Richard W. Thompson in 1931,

and he lived there until his death in 1900.

In 1913 the house was divided into two parts, actually cut in two, and moved to separate locations several blocks south. One half of Rowdy Hall is now located at 2215 S. 7th St. The other half was moved to 2227 S. CENTER

on cities found **TERRE HAUTE 1ST.** **CENTER OF RAW** **MATERIALS AREA**

Indpls. Star
June 18, 1926
Capital of "Valley Empire"
Has Population of 75,000
—20 Counties Comprise
Huge Market.

HAS FARM, COAL ASSETS

Transportation Facilities In-
clude Network of Steam
and Electric Lines.

(The following article, a survey of Terre Haute, is the seventh of a series of business research accounts being written by Prof. Edie. The articles appear in The Star four times a week. The eighth article in the series, and the second about Terre Haute, will appear in The Sunday Star.)

BY LIONEL D. EDIE,
 Director Bureau of Business Research,
 Indiana University School of Commerce and Finance.

Terre Haute, as the "capital of the Wabash valley empire," has one of the most favorable locations of all Indiana cities in regard to raw material supply, fuel supply, and facilities for transportation to important markets. The city, with a population of approximately seventy-five thousand, is located only twenty-five miles from the center of population of the United States.

Eleven Indiana and nine Illinois counties, within a radius of about seventy-five miles from Terre Haute, form a near-by potential market with an estimated purchasing power in excess of \$200,000,000 a year. This area has an estimated population of 500,000 persons. The section, slightly smaller in area, which is known to patronize Terre Haute merchants principally has a population of 428,548 persons.

COAL AND AGRICULTURE.

This same district, which comprises such a broad market, also produces two of the commodities most essential in manufacturing—coal and agricultural products. Bituminous coal is mined near Terre Haute and carried by a short freight haul to the mills and factories of the city. Vigo county alone produced more than four million tons of coal in 1925.

The agricultural wealth of the area of the twenty counties in the Terre Haute trade territory is proved by statistics showing that the annual value of the plant crops alone exceeds \$170,000,000. About eight million

bushels of wheat and thirty-five million bushels of corn are produced annually in this territory. A census of the domestic animals shows a total of 412,977 head of swine, 272,943 head of cattle, 151,102 head of horses and mules, and 103,152 head of sheep in the twenty counties in the upper Wabash river valley.

RAILWAYS AND ROADS.

To extend beyond the immediate market and make connection with the large cities of the middle West, Terre Haute has a complete system of railroads and state roads. Four steam train lines and an electric interurban company form a network connecting Terre Haute and larger market centers, affording freedom from shipping congestion.

Lines of the Pennsylvania railway radiate from Terre Haute in three directions, giving almost direct service to St. Louis, Mo., through north central and south central Illinois, and to Indianapolis. Thirty-eight passenger trains serve Terre Haute on these lines daily. The Pennsylvania lines and shops at Terre Haute employ 1,330 men.

The C., C. & St. L. railway provides a second line to Indianapolis. Thirty-four passenger trains of this line touch at Terre Haute daily. The C., C. & St. L. railway uses 231 men at Terre Haute. The C. M. & St. P. line from Chicago to Cincinnati has Terre Haute as a junction point. Ten trains serve the city on this line every twenty-four hours. Six hundred and seventy men are employed by the C., M. & S. P. railway through its Terre Haute offices.

HEAVY FREIGHT CARGOES.

The C. & E. I. railway with direct lines to Chicago and Evansville has sixteen trains touching at Terre Haute daily and employs 300 men there. Seventy-five passenger cars arrive at and leave Terre Haute daily on the T. H. I. & E. Traction Company lines to Indianapolis and nearby towns.

In 1925 1,267,231 tons of freight, exclusive of coal, were carried out of Terre Haute by trains and 1,249,365 tons were brought to the city on the same routes. One hundred and fifty package cars were loaded or unloaded at Terre Haute. An average of 157 freight trains served the city daily. The total monthly pay rolls of railways paid at Terre Haute offices, exceeds \$600,000.

In Terre Haute two of the most important transcontinental roads, the National highway and the Dixie Bee highway intersect. These two roads accommodate a high percentage of the automobile traffic between the Eastern and Western parts of the United States and between Chicago and the South.

50 WHOLESALE COMPANIES.

Fifty wholesale and jobbing companies are taking advantage of Terre Haute's location and transportation advantages. The principal commodities handled by these firms are groceries and general merchandise, drugs, cigars and tobaccos, dry goods, agricultural implements, automobiles and accessories, and fruits and vegetables. These houses, which report a general increase in business for the last five years, sell to retailers throughout Indiana and Illinois. Their strongest competitors are Chicago, Indianapolis and St. Louis houses.

Seventy-five or 80 per cent of the groceries sold by Terre Haute retailers are purchased through local jobbers. Perishable goods are bought from nearby truck farms and orchards or through Chicago. Drugs come from Chicago, St. Louis and local firms. St. Louis, Chicago and New York, in the order named, are the most important sources of dry goods and notions.

Carpets and hardware are the only lines which come through Indianapolis in any great amount, Terre Haute dealers say. Other merchandise can be purchased from the more distant points more cheaply and in more consistent lines, they say, in spite of the higher freight costs.

WATER FROM RIVER.

The public utility companies depend, to a great extent, on the natural advantages in the location of the city. The water supply is pumped from the Wabash river by the Terre Haute Water Works Corporation and passes through a filtration plant having a capacity of 30,000,000 gallons every twenty-four hours. The water is tested daily and has never failed to meet the requirements for purity. Electricity for light and power is generated by the plants of the T. H. I. & E. Traction Company and the Central Indiana Power Company combined, having a total kilowatt capacity of 82,500.

Nearby mines supply the coal for gas manufactured by the Citizens Gas and Fuel Company. The company reports an increase of 134,000,000 cubic feet of gas consumed in 1925 over the total for 1920 and, to date this year, an increase of 11.32 per cent over that of last year. The Citizens Independent Telephone Company has installed more than sixteen thousand telephones in or near Terre Haute. The T. H. I. & E. Traction Company operates sixty-eight street cars within the city.

Fundamental advantages of location and transportation should afford a basis for a great industrial city. Proximity to raw materials and fuel, facilities for quick and cheap transportation to larger markets and excellence of public utilities work to the advantage of the city.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

INDIANA ROOM

Vigo County Public Library

Historic
 LAND MARKS

TERRE HAUTE'S RAPID GROWTH

Terre Haute
City Has Captivating History

Since Early Days of In-
dians and Pioneers.

June 11, 1931
Terre Haute is older than Vigo County in which it is situated and is older than the state of Indiana as a town of the white man. It is older than the territory of Indiana as a town of the Indians. Among the earliest acts of the Governor of Indiana Territory was the licensing of pioneers to trade with the Indians at their town of Terre Haute. Before that time even, a settlement known as Weautenon (the Rising Sun Town of the Weas) was located on the hill just north of the Big Four Railroad bridge. The Weas were a part of the great Miami nation that largely occupied what is now Indiana.

Terre Haute had been the home of Indian generations prior to the coming of the white man into this part of the country. Situated as it is, on the broad Fort Harrison prairie, high above the flood waters of the Wabash, away from the malarial lowlands of the early days, the Indians found here a happy place to live. It was only natural that on this broad, fertile plane, the white man should fix his habitation.

In Gen. William Henry Harrison's journal is mentioned the town of "Tar Hold," although there is no doubt that he knew it by the name we use today. He fixed its location by saying that "two miles farther he came up with the army," where it had "stopped to build a garrison." This was the Fort Harrison of our early history where were stationed the pioneer outposts of a new civilization with Zachary Taylor, Major Morgan and Major Chunn in command.

The first surveys of the government were made in 1812. It was in 1814 that maps showed the location of Terre Haute. The first land entries in the Harrison purchase were made on June 3, 1816, in which mention was made of the town of "Terhout."

Terre Haute is derived from the French "terre," land, and "haute," high, signifying high land.

This name was bestowed by early explorers not so much on account of its elevation above the surrounding country as from the fact that this is the only high ground approaching the river for several miles, it is beautifully situated on the east bank of the Wabash River, in Vigo County, on a high, level plateau, about 50 feet above the river surface.

There were many trials and dangers incident to the early settlement of this section as well as to all other sections of our common country. The few people lived in log cabins, literally devoid of any adornment and in many cases wanting in the common necessities of life.

Terre Haute was laid out and platted in the Fall of 1816, the same year that Indiana was admitted as a state, by the "Terre Haute Land Company." The articles of organization bear date, Sept. 19, 1816.

The company held patents from the United States to "13 tracts of land on the Wabash River in the vicinity of Fort Harrison."

All title to lots in this purchase were derived from these men as original proprietors.

The place, however, settled very slowly at first and was greatly retarded by the sickness that prevailed throughout the Wabash Valley from 1818 to 1821. In 1817 the new town presented a truly pioneer appearance.

Vigo County Organized.

In January, 1818, Vigo County was organized and as an inducement to locate the county seat in Terre Haute, the proprietors deeded to the county some 80 lots beside the public square and paid into the county treasury \$4,000.

In this intelligent action of these proprietors we see the character of the men who founded the town and the immediate result of this sagacity was the impulse given toward that prosperity which has since continued to be manifested in an increasing ratio.

The original site of Terre Haute extended from the river east to the west side of Fifth street and from the then morasses on the east and south.

In the year of 1820 the first census taken by Charles T. Noble showed 579 inhabitants. When the second census was taken in 1835 there was an increase to 1,200. Not until the growth of population and transportation together mastered the wilderness did Terre Haute begin to come into its own. Early stage lines provided the first transportation; shortly came the Wabash River steamboat, then the Wabash-Erie canal running from Lake Erie to Evansville, a distance of 458 miles, making a connecting link between Terre Haute and the outer world, all of which bore their part in making a great city rise from an humble beginning. About this time came the National Road, followed by the Terre Haute & Richmond Railroad (now a part of the Pennsylvania system) and shortly after its Western extension the Terre Haute & Union Road to St. Louis and the West.

At that time Terre Haute knew little or nothing of the advantages it possessed as a manufacturing town. Little was known of its resources in coal. Wood was the fuel for nearly all purposes. A very small quantity of coal was being mined on the west side of the river, but as its quality was low, not much attention was given it, and the destruction of timber for fuel went merrily on until the supply was exhausted. Incidentally, it might be mentioned that while the timber cutting was going on Terre Haute was the largest market in the world for black walnut.

Early trails centered in Terre Haute where Fort Harrison, one of the pioneer outposts in the Northwest territory, was located and since those early days the history of Terre Haute has been the history of transportation.

These early military trails formed the basis for the early stage roads into the Northwest territory. The national government built the first

federal highway into this territory with its terminus on the banks of the Wabash at Terre Haute. Later came the railroads which were built from Terre Haute in all directions, and today four trunk line systems leave Terre Haute in 11 directions.

The electric traction lines followed the railroad and Terre Haute has been an important link in the traction systems of the Central West.

With the motorization of transportation, the early pioneer trails were made into the excellent United States highways and county unit roads, which are paved in a radiating network from Terre Haute.

Air Transportation.

Modern air transportation has followed closely the historic march of civilization across the continent. It has placed Terre Haute at a most strategic point in the transportation of the air.

Dresser Field, Terre Haute's excellent municipal airport, is used as a terminal field on Chicago-Atlanta air mail route as well as the New York-Los Angeles route of the Transcontinental Western Air Line.

From a communications standpoint, Terre Haute is also an important cross roads for the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and its present and proposed system of long line cables.

Terre Haute dominates a territory of eastern Illinois and western Indiana known as the "Wabash Valley empire." It is the metropolis of this fertile agricultural region with a population of over 250,000. These people come to Terre Haute for their recreation, amusement, education and to do their trading.

From an educational standpoint, Terre Haute is more favored than almost any city in the central West

with three high ranking educational institutions of college standing. Indiana State Teachers' College has an annual enrollment of over 3,500 students. Rose Polytechnic one of the outstanding engineer colleges of this country, has a limited enrollment of 350. St. Mary-of-the-Woods, a Roman Catholic girls' college, is located across the river from Terre Haute on a tract of 1,200 acres. This is one of the most beautiful girls' colleges in the country, with an investment of almost \$10,000,000 in its plant. Two large commercial colleges train the students in Wabash Valley for efficient work in Terre Haute's offices. Ernestine Myers' School of the Stage is one of the outstanding institutions of its kind in the country. About 400 students are enrolled in this school, which has its own building with a large auditorium and practice and dressing rooms for its faculty and pupils. The public schools of Terre Haute are excellent. Two senior high schools, a technical high school, three junior high schools and 19 grammar schools have a force of over 500 teachers and instructors. There are also six parochial schools, including two high schools, in which all branches are taught. The King Classical School is a private exclusive school with all grades from kindergarten through four years of high school.

Industrial Terre Haute.

The industrial plants in Terre Haute find that Terre Haute's exceptional educational opportunities

INDIANA ROOM

Vigo County Public Library

June 4, 1931

are a material factor in stabilizing their labor market. A man or woman can be satisfied in his work where educational opportunities can be offered his children at a very low cost.

It is interesting to note that over 65 per cent of Terre Haute's residents are home owners.

Out of doors recreation is offered by the municipality in two public golf courses, one an 18-hole course with a \$50,000 club house, the other a nine-hole course with locker room facilities at the Memorial Stadium. This Stadium was built in memory of those who lost their lives in the World War, at a cost of \$400,000 and seats 16,000 people. Three Eye League baseball, with its Terre Haute team, uses the Stadium for its home grounds.

Six downtown theaters offer the best in talking pictures. One theater also offers vaudeville and another used for frequent legitimate dramatic attractions. There are also neighborhood theaters in all sections of the city.

An outstanding feature of Terre Haute's outdoor activities is Izaak Walton Lake, owned and maintained by the organization of that name, which is one of the most active chapters in this part of the country. They maintain an excellent swimming beach for the use of the general public. The lake is well stocked with fish. A shooting range is maintained at the lake with an active Walton membership known as the Terre Haute Gun Club.

The women of Terre Haute have an organization of over 1,000 members in the Woman's Department Club with a large downtown club house. This club is divided into seven departments—each department with its own chairman, officers and committee workers. These departments are art, drama, French, literature, music, nature study and social science. This club, as well as the three local colleges, brings to Terre Haute cultural and educational lectures, musicals, and dramatic readings of the highest order. The Civic Music Association, with over 1,500 members, brings a series of musical attractions to Terre Haute each year.

Terre Haute is fortunate in having nice residential districts north, south and east from the downtown business section. To the west, of course, lies the Wabash River. Modern bungalows with garage in excellent neighborhood can be rented for from \$48 to \$55 a month. Equally desirable houses of this type can be secured further out at lower rentals. Apartments in buildings of four or more can be rented in excellent locations for from \$50 to \$65. Some duplex apartments rent for less. The small efficiency apartments rent for from \$40 to \$50. Suitable residences for higher salaried executives are available in exclusive residential subdivisions at a rental of \$75 and up.

City Gives College Downtown Streets

Aug 15, 1937

[Special to The Indianapolis Star.]

Terre Haute, Ind., Aug. 14.—Indiana State Teachers' College and the city of Terre Haute this week added another chapter to a long and unique history of state and city co-operation in the development of the college when the Terre Haute Board of Public Works closed four blocks of downtown city streets which are to be transformed into campus.

The streets, situated two blocks from the heart of the city, are bordered almost entirely by college property.

A WPA project is pending for transforming the streets into campus lawn and drives, and the demolition of a business block nearby which recently was purchased for Indiana State College by a foundation composed of Terre Haute citizens.

Rivalry Absent.

The absence of a traditional rivalry between "town and gown," a condition apparent in many of the seats of colleges, has existed here since Terre Haute raised \$50,000 to outbid other Hoosier cities for the location of the new teacher-training institution in 1865, and in 1888 raised another \$50,000 to match a double amount appropriated by the state to rebuild the institution after it had been wiped out by fire.

Using the increased campus area, Indiana State contemplates the building of at least three new major buildings in the next five years, in a program made possible when the last General Assembly restored an annual improvement fund.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Syatanons et de la terre haute a 80 Lieues au dessus, JI est certain que les Pirogues ne pourront descendre ny monter Sabache et la riviere des Miamis pour aller dans ces deux endroits Sans courrir les risques detre deffaittes et cela arriveroit Surement. JI est Evident que les Sauvages de ces pays cy Se tiendroient sur cette riviere pour otter la communication et les Secours d'un poste a l'autre; En travaillant a chasser les anglais des rivières blanches, Belle riviere, et riviere a la Roche on ote la cause de tous ces maux et on Evitte tous ces accidents qui selon toutes les apparences ne seront que trop certains, si on ne vient point aux mains avec les Sauvages de ces pays Cy.

Jl me paroistroit encore quelque autre moïen de parvenir a obliger d'eux meme les Sauvages qui habitent les ³⁸⁵ Susdittes

rivieres, de Se retirer. Ce moyen seroit quele P. de La Richardie¹ et M le Commandant du Detroit puissent adroitement et Sous mains engager les hurons du Detroit a fraper Sur les Ch8anons et Sur les miamis de la riviere a la Roche, pour se

[Translation]

from Ouiatanon and Terre Haute, eighty leagues higher up. It is certain that pirogues can neither ascend nor descend the Wabash and the Maumee to go to these two places without running the risk of being ambuscaded, as will surely happen. It is evident that the Indians of this country rely on this river for preventing communication and assistance from one post to another. By seeking to drive the English from the Sandusky River, Ohio River, and Great Miami River—if we do not come to blows with the Indians of this country—we would take away the cause of all these evils and avoid all the accidents which according to all appearances will be but too likely.

Another means occurs to me of obliging the Indians who inhabit these rivers to leave them of their own accord. This means would be that Father de la Richardie¹ and M. the commandant of Detroit might skilfully and secretly induce the Huron of Detroit to attack the Shawnee and the Miami of Great Miami River to avenge themselves on those Indians for having last winter

¹ Father Armand de la Richardie, Jesuit.

Letter written April 9, 1750
From M. Raymond to La Jonquière

* reference to Terre Haute as a Trading Post

possibly the earliest mention
of the name

Historic Landmarks (TH)

Corner-stone Layings Were Events Of Importance When City Was Young

TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE

OCT 5 1947

By A. R. Markle.

MANY of our public buildings are begun with ceremonies of public interest and usually celebrate the beginning of the construction above ground with the formal laying of a corner-stone accompanied in many cases by the ritual of the Masonic orders. The idea, however, goes back much farther than the origin of Masonry itself, for in those early days when men worshipped the sun and sacrificed on altars the beginning of temples, pyramids and idols was the occasion for human sacrifices.

In our modern times the corner-stone, laid with much to do and formal ceremony, is dedicated to posterity and in order that the times are certain to be remembered by the generations yet unborn, symbols and mementoes of the time are placed in the stone.

Asbury Chapel.

An early laying of the stone was on May 15, 1841, when the program included an address at 11 o'clock in the old Congregational church at Sixth and Cherry where now stands the Deming Hotel. The Rev. Matthew Simpson, president of the Indiana Asbury University, was in charge. Following his ad-

dress a procession moved to Third and Poplar where the Rev. M. Augustus Jewett of the Congregational church gave an address and the paper says, "other necessary ceremonies were performed, suitable to the occasion." The building was demolished long ago and it is not known what became of the stone and its contents.

In the building of the old First Ward school, the corner-stone was laid in 1858 and contained a daguerreotype of James Hook, the builder, a copy of the Terre Haute Union and one of the Prairie Citizen, a lithograph of Fort Harrison, currency of the existing Terre Haute banks, a list of the business houses, preachers and churches and the city officials.

When the building was demolished in 1878, the contents were placed in the corner-stone of the present building where they still rest. The city school trustees, however, retained the right to the stone which is to be given over to them if and when the building is demolished.

The Normal School.

The corner stone of the Indiana State Normal School was laid with great ceremony on Aug. 9, 1867. In attendance were State and local dignitaries, including the gover-

nor of the state, the superintendent of public instruction and many others interested in teacher education. When the building was destroyed in 1888, the portion of the wall containing the stone was not disturbed and the stone and its contents are still where they were placed eighty years ago.

The Female College.

The Female College was built in 1853 and the corner-stone laid July 4 of that year is still in place within the walls of St. Anthony's Hospital. In 1864 after the failure of the college, a school opened under the auspices of the Episcopal church of Indiana called St. Agnes Academy.

A list of the contents of the Rose Polytechnic Institute corner-stone was published in the issue of last Sunday. That stone is still in place undisturbed.

The fraternal orders, Masons, Odd Fellows, Red Men and others, set cornerstones on their buildings as do the Roman Catholic and Episcopal churches, but with many other sects it is not so common a custom; some do and some do not.

Our largest public building, the Vigo County court house, laid its corner-stone in August, 1884, and the writer remembers the occasion as one attracting large crowds blocking traffic on Wabash and Third street. Prominent Masonic officials from over the state took part in the ceremonies. The laying of the stones for the Fairbanks library, the Elks building and other prominent buildings were also well attended affairs.

REFERENCE
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Community Affairs File

ISU gets grant to locate historic factories

Ts JUL 22 1984

Indiana State University has received the first federal grant made available in the state to fund a search for sites and structures of historic manufacturing operations in western Indiana.

John McGregor, professor of economic geography at ISU, will develop and conduct the survey. Sites of industries which operated in Clay, Parke, Sullivan, Vermillion and Vigo counties before 1920 are being sought.

Based on early histories, maps, public records and information obtained from area residents, McGregor will develop a record while a meaningful part of the region's industrial heritage still

survives.

The project is funded by a \$10,000 grant from the Department of the Interior and administered through the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. ISU is providing matching support.

"Early industries in the five-county area ranged from those which depended upon the Wabash River system and the Wabash and Erie Canal for transportation to later operations which were served by modern railroads," McGregor said.

Still earlier were pioneer mills and artisan shops which ground corn

and wheat, sawed local timber and provided skill crafts. Some of the pioneer industries in the area predated 1820.

"Fire was a deadly matter in pioneer times and flood, decay and new demands for the old sites eliminated others, so most of the earliest factories and mills are already destroyed with only remnants of foundations marking their locations," McGregor said.

Because those same forces are still operating in the area, even relatively recent structures are being lost. McGregor says this makes help from local people who know of early industries particularly important.

Published materials are incomplete, so he is interested in a good identification of where an industry is — or was — located, the dates of operation, the name of the company or owner, and the products made.

Descriptions, photographs or sketches of structures past or present are also sought. These materials can be photographed and returned to the owners.

Individuals interested in providing information on early industries in the research area are asked to write McGregor in care of: Department of Geography, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, 47809.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library

2 Local Landmarks

T AUG 20 1976

Community Affairs File

By WAYNE PERRY
Tribune Staff Writer

Two of downtown Terre Haute's landmarks—the former Deming Hotel (now the Indiana State University Conference Center) and the Terre Haute House—could both become housing for the elderly and handicapped under plans now being considered by local officials.

The conversion of the two facilities is being considered by the Bethesda Corporation, a non-profit group, which would supervise the remodeling and own the properties.

Management of the facilities would be by the Housing Authority of the City of Terre Haute.

(Bethesda has municipality status as an agency of the Housing Authority. The corporation therefore has greater flexibility in planning and operating housing since it is legally a private

organization.)

According to Bill Thompson, staff member of the West Central Indiana Economic Development District (WCIEDD), the proposal for remodeling of the former Deming Hotel has already been given review approval by the WCIEDD board and an official application has been made so that the facility could participate in the Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

On Wednesday the Environmental Review Committee of the WCIEDD gave approval (subject to certain requirements) for the Bethesda Corporation to rehabilitate the Terre Haute House for elderly, handicapped and disabled residents.

The WCIEDD board will consider that request next Monday

Considered for Housing

Historic Landmarks, T. H.

Thompson told The TRIBUNE that within a short time HUD should make a decision on approval of the Deming Hotel proposal.

He added that the proposal concerning the Terre Haute House would still require substantial local review and is therefore some six months before a decision by HUD might be forthcoming.

The Bethesda Corporation has proposed the rehabilitation of the old Deming Hotel into 82 one-bedroom units for the elderly, handicapped and disabled.

ISU currently owns the property, located on the southeast corner of Sixth and Cherry streets.

The proposed rehabilitation of the Terre Haute House would include 12 efficiency apartments, 91 one-bedroom units and 10 two-bedroom units.

Total cost of the project has been es-

timated at \$3 million, which includes \$700,000 for the purchase of the hotel.

The proposal was approved by the Environmental Review Committee, subject to a necessary revision of the Terre Haute Housing Assistance Plan and to efforts to relocate 10 permanent residents of the hotel.

Thompson said since Bethesda would own the Terre Haute House if it is remodeled, the rental of some commercial space in the building could help pay the costs of the project. That might include the coffee shop currently on the site and other small shops and services.

Thompson points out that in addition to the proposals concerning the former Deming Hotel and the Terre Haute House, another proposal has been submitted to HUD for the construction of a three-story facility for elderly housing adjacent to the current Garfield Towers.

That proposal calls for 62 one-bedroom units, including four units specifically designed for the handicapped. Notification of HUD acceptance or rejection of that proposal should be received shortly.

Local officials report there are presently 660 people on the waiting list of the Housing Authority seeking apartments for the elderly.

Thompson said he feels there is therefore a need for all three proposed projects.

In addition to the three proposals that are now considered as strong possibilities for realization, other sites in the city are also being considered for construction of housing facilities for the elderly.

Kirby Smith, Housing Authority director, was unavailable for comment on the current status of the various proposals for housing for the elderly.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File
Vigo County Public Library

Century Old Terre Haute Buildings Recalled Some Frontier History

Historic Landmarks (TH)

366
R. A. R. Markle.

AT THE northeast corner of First and Wabash is the building which housed the George W. Bement business in 1851. It is now occupied as a warehouse for the Root Store. At the northeast corner of Second and Wabash, which was a hotel one hundred years ago as it is today, has been operated by different landlords and is now the Indoio Hotel. At the northwest corner of Third and Cherry was a building, on an upper floor of which was organized the First Church of the Disciples, over a century ago. In later years the organization held forth in a building on the east side of South Fourth street, which is now a parking lot opposite the old city hall. From there they moved to a brick building, which is now the book store of the college. Still later they erected their present structure at Seventh and Mulberry.

At the northeast corner of Third and Wabash, and extending east to the alley, is Phoenix Row, which was constructed in 1851, after a fire which destroyed the original structures on that ground in 1850. On the northwest corner of Fourth and Wabash and extending west to the alley, is Union Row, which was built in 1850. In 1851 the second room from the alley was the first home of Francis Hulman and his partner, John B. Ludowici. At the southwest corner of Second and Ohio still stands the building long known as Pence's Hall, erected by Dr. Pence for his drug store, and the upper floor of which for many years was the headquarters for the Spiritualist Society. Midway in the block from Second to Third on the south side of Ohio, is the building known as Memorial Hall, which was built in 1836 for the Terre Haute branch of The State Bank of Indiana. This is probably the oldest brick and stone structure in the county.

On the north side of Chestnut, east of Second, is a small red frame house in which lived the lock tender, who passed the boats from the south into the old Basin, in the 1840's. On the south side of Ohio between Fifth and Sixth stands a medium size brick house, which was the home of David Linton. This house erected about 1837, stood in the middle of that block facing St. Joseph's Church. This entire block was bought by David Linton in 1827 from Dr. John Durkee and his wife, Corinna. She was the daughter of Taylor Crawford. Dr. Durkee later operated the ferry under his name

and he received \$125.00 for this block known as out lot 38. When later Linton and his daughter partitioned the property, the house was moved to the rear end of the lot on which it now stands, and when the alley was opened through the block, the house was again moved to its present resting place.

Still Standing.

On the southwest corner of Fourth and Wabash and extending west to the alley is the Warren Block, completed in 1853 by Chauncey Warren. The corner room at Fourth street was the second home of The Bank of Southern Indiana, organized by the Williams brothers of Erie, Pa. Here, in 1863, they organized The First National Bank of Terre Haute and moved across Fourth street.

Retiring after selling their stock to Judge Deming, they returned to Pennsylvania. The building of today has seen little change since the old days when it was known as Deming's Bank. South of the Warren corner on the west side of Fourth stands a three-story brick building, which was built by Mr. Warren, for the use of the Post Office on the lower floor and the newspaper publishing plant on the upper floors. In 1871 the Post Office moved out of this building to it's new quarters at the southeast corner of the alley on Sixth street between Main and Ohio.

The corner now occupied by The Court House Furniture Company was the second home of the organization, which in time became The Root Dry Goods Company.

Diagonally across the street at the northeast corner stood in the 1850's, an old style dry goods store known as The Spinning Wheel, so named because of an old wooden spinning wheel over the front of the building. This was torn down in 1870 for the erection of the Terre Haute Opera House, the corner room of which became the third home of The Root Store organization. This building burned in 1896, and was succeeded by the present building on that corner.

Failing successful operation the mortgage was foreclosed and George W. Naylor bought the premises and it became known as the Naylor Opera House. In part payment for the property Mr. Naylor gave the lot at the northeast corner of Fourth and Ohio, where for several years he conducted a grocery store.

On the northeast corner of Fifth and Wabash stood the wholesale grocery of Francis Hulman, who was lost at sea with his wife and daughter, as he returned from Europe in September 1858. Under the terms of his will, his half brother, Herman, took over the business and acquired the rights of the other heirs. In 1893 the establishment moved to the new building at Ninth and Wabash and the old building was demolished for the erection of the Havens and Geddes Building, which burned in 1899 . . . Terre Haute's most costly fire in value and lives.

On the southeast corner of Fifth and Wabash is a building which was erected in the 1850's by a number of owners. It extended to Sixth street, the east end of which, became The National Hotel. At this corner of the building, the southwest corner of Sixth and Wabash, was in 1856, the first home of what has become The Root Dry Goods Store.

Vanished Structures.

All traces are lost of the old covered bridge which spanned the Wabash at the foot of Main street. It was succeeded by the present bridge early in the present century.

All traces too, of the old canal have disappeared, but the course can still be traced through the city from the Basin to the far southeast portion of the city.

Where once stood the linseed oil mill of Captain James Hook, is now a soft drink plant. His later planning mill at the corner of Third and Chestnut was on the bank of the canal, the water of which, furnished the power to operate his machines. It is now covered by the new building of The Temple Laundry, which also covers the old dry dock where boats were built and repaired and the original Hudson Hominy Mill.

Further north the canal curved to go east along the present right of way of the Pennsylvania Railroad. As is crossed the present Eighth street its course is shown by the north end of the Toastmaster Bakery. Thence it crossed what is now the Union Station park and continued south along what is now called Ninth and One-half street, then through the brewery ground to the present freight house of the Milwaukee Road at Crawford street and then along their right of way to Spring Hill, far south of the city. The fence on the easterly side of the old car works plant was the west line of the old canal.

Of all the buildings which stood on the bank of the Basin or the sides of the canal, with the possible exception of the old Paddock Mill at Fifth street, have long since disappeared.

Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

When Grover Cleveland Was Our Guest and Brought His Bride

Historic Landmarks (TH)

By A. R. Markle.

AT the northeast corner of Sixth and Ohio streets, stands the Beach Block, built in 1875, on the site where many of our early citizens were buried. Back of it



A. R. MARKLE.

Store.

During the excavation of these buildings the remains of several of our early people were found and were gathered up by Spencer F. Ball and recently buried elsewhere. While these people were all buried in the first twenty years of Terre Haute, the teeth found in the skulls indicated great age so that they were truly pioneers of Terre Haute. The corner location of the Beach Block was marked on an early sketch of Ohio street given to me by Linton Usher as "May Pole."

On the opposite side of Ohio street where now stands the Star Building there once stood a long one-story building. This was the home of the Booth family. Here Linton Usher added the note that "We boys stood at the window and saw Lizzie Booth marry the man who became the father of the late Booth Tarkington."

Before the erection of the Beach Block John S. Beach had built the building at the corner of the alley and north of it. This was to become our second building erected purposely for the Terre Haute Post Office.

Familiar Places.

Going north on Sixth street, beginning with the alley, a small two-story brick building was built with its floor some distances above the sidewalk and in 1869 the Prairie City Bank moved into one half of the room and in the other half the Terre Haute Savings Bank was organized. While there was no partition between the two banks Beach had a separate entrance consisting of iron steps and railing opening into the respective banks.

On the upper floor for many years was the office of B. V. Marshall who later moved across the alley into rooms over the old post office which was vacated about 1887. The balance of the space up to Wabash was the home of the Buckeye Cash Store; the second floor was occupied by bachelor quarters. Exit from this floor was by means of a stairway leading down to Sixth street while another exit was at the Ohio street end of the long hall of the Beach Block which was reached by an overhead bridge across the alley. From this hall after crossing the alley one could turn left down the stairway and reach the alley or on the right hand side there were two separate stairways which led down to Sixth street. These various exits from the second floor provided a route for many a game of hide-and-seek.

The Buntin Store.

On the northwest corner of Sixth and Wabash the present building was built in 1867 and in its entire existence of nearly eighty-five years it was occupied only by one business, the drug store of Buntin and Armstrong, followed by the Gillis Drug Company who vacated it in 1953 for the present occupant. On the second floor was the office of Josse Vrydaugh whose plans were followed in many of our buildings in the latter part of the last century. In one instance he drew the plans for a courthouse to be erected on a public square and the county commissioners, having decided not to build, refused to pay for the plans but the court saw otherwise and he collected his fee. From his office his elder son noted the erection of the McKeen Bank Building in 1876 on the west side of Sixth street.

A startling feature of our skyline was an undraped statue of Mercury who it was explained by Riley McKeen was the god of thieves and bankers. Over the entrance door was a large size statue of Minerva but McKeen made no explanation or reason for her presence.

The north half of the lot on which the drugstore stood was vacant for many years but across the alley north a three-story brick building was occupied at various times by Joseph Strong's spice mill, Wood's wholesale hat store and Moore-Langen Printers and Publishers.

North of this, extending from Cherry street, was the First Congregational Church, the belfry of which held a town clock. The famous Lyman Abbott was pastor here at one time.

Across the alley in the rear of the McKeen Bank Building was Dowling Hall with storerooms below and an upper floor long famous for musical, theatrical and social gatherings. Lighted by gas it held the largest stage of any building in Indiana.

Thomas A. Edison exhibited here what was almost his only invention, a rude wooden machine with a crank operated cylinder on which lay a smooth sheet of tin foil and as the cylinder was revolved and an operator bellowed into a mouthpiece, the speech was recorded and on another turn of the cylinder the speech was reproduced. This was the phonograph first shown here in 1876.

An extension of this building to the north housed the drill hall of the Terre Haute Cadets, the Governor's Guard, and the Light Infantry left over from the Civil War. This long hall often held a

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Thanksgiving Day banquet for Perry Westfall's newsboys.

At the northwest corner of Sixth and Cherry stood the Baptist Church and at the rear of the lot was the original chapel where services were held before the main church building was erected. Almost all of us can remember the chapel as a waiting room for the suburban busses. The church disappeared long ago while across Sixth street at the northeast corner stood for many years Hunter's Laundry, the lower floor of the building housing several tenants until the weakened condition of the upper floor required the laundry to take over the first floor only. It, too, disappeared.

In the next block north of this, sitting well back from Sixth street, was the old Seminary which opened in the Forties as the Vigo County Collegiate Institute. This was demolished when the Normal School Building took its place.

Then in 1888 fire destroyed that building, but on its foundations was built a new Normal School Building, which when its growth began bursting at the seams, it became the Administration Building of the Teachers College. It, too, has disappeared as has the old training school, finally known as Stalker Hall. Of all the residences which lined both sides of Cherry street as well as those on both sides of Eagle street and the southside of Chestnut none exist today; they have all given way to the college campus, the only exception being the home of Miss Helen Condit. The latter is located on the former Mulberry street.

On the site of the present Elks Club was the two-story brick residence of D. C. Clippenger which in time was successively the home of Dr. Armstrong and Dr. Moses Waters.

Facing Seventh street in the block north of Cherry street was the Paddock residence which was demolished for the Rose Dispensary.

At the northwest corner of Seventh and Mulberry was the home of Preston Hussey. At each side of the steps leading up to the porch two stone lions stood guard. When the building was destroyed for the erection of a store and office building, these lions were raised to the top of the building where each showed his head and mane through the brickwork of the cornice.

Where the Fairbanks Library now stands was the home of John Boudinot Hunley, familiarly known to everyone as Bud Hunley. After his graduation from Rose Polytechnic Institute in 1903, he entered the engineering department of the Big Four Division of the New York Central Railroad with headquarters in Cincinnati. His title was "Superintendent of Bridges and Structures." He died in 1946 at Chicago where he held the same office over a much larger territory. He was buried from St. Stephen's Church directly across the street from his home.

The colonial home still standing between the Women's Residence Hall and the Vocational Training Building is still held in ownership by Miss Helen Condit, daughter of the late Blackford Condit, one of the esteemed early Terre Haute pastors. She was the sister of the lamented Allen Condit, an attorney of distinction and a courteous gentleman whose death by his own hand saddened a wide circle of Terre Haute friends.

About 1888 the town gathered around the college block to see destructive flames consume the imposing one-building institution. The Indiana Legislature was prompt in coming to the rescue and as the years passed the charred areas became the site of the handsome group of modern buildings which now comprise the Indiana State Teachers College, and which has brought to Terre Haute the distinguished leader in education, President R. W. Holmstedt. Elderly citizens remember one day of glory at the "Old Normal." This was the day of the visit of President Grover Cleveland and his beautiful bride, the former Frances Folsom, who he married in a White House ceremony, the second such event in the history of the country.

President Cleveland spoke from a stand in the corner of the campus at Sixth and Mulberry streets and it was a gala occasion for this section of the midwest.

Some Old Landmarks Identified With The Early History Of Terre Haute

TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE

APR 18 1948

By A. R. Markle.

From notebooks in archives of
Fairbanks Library.

On the north side of Ohio a little west of the Congregational Church stood a small brick house built by Curtis Gilbert in 1834. Very early in the history of Terre Haute he had bought the two outlots lying between Wabash and Ohio from Sixth to Seventh streets. In this house were born his son Joseph and his daughter Harriet. The latter married John S. Beach and spent part of her married life as the mistress of the house which was her birthplace.

The late Linton Usher once drew a map for the writer showing the occupants of this block on Ohio street. The space now taken by the Beach Block facing Sixth street was marked "May Pole," evidently reminiscent of some May Day frolic and the part that held this house bore a title, significant of the late sixties, "John Beach, Democrat."

In 1842 Mr. Gilbert moved out of town to the home he built between Fourteenth and Fifteenth on Wabash, then far out in the country along the National Road. He was followed in this old house by W. D. Griswold, John S. Beach and others.

In November, 1881, the tenant, the Rev. Francis S. Dunham of St. Stephen's Church, was host to a meeting called by Judge William Mack at which was organized the Terre Haute Literary Club, now in all probability, the oldest organized cultural society in the city.

The Beach Bank.

Around the corner on South Sixth, at the north side of the alley, stood the building of the Prairie City Bank. Organized in 1852 in the old Rose building at

the northwest corner of Ohio and Second, birthplace of two other banks of early Terre Haute, it moved into its own building next to the Shandy building on Wabash in late 1854 and later into this building. In 1869 it shared its quarters with the newly organized Terre Haute Savings Bank until the latter built its own building at the southwest corner of Sixth and Ohio. After the failure of the bank it became the office of Paul Kuhn. Later the Kleeman store took over the building and altered it to fit into their own store and finally it, with the rest of the property, was razed for the Ward building.

Congregational Church.

In 1834 a traveler stopped over night and as soon as it became known that he was a minister, a group asked him to stay over Sunday and preach to them. This was Merrick A. Jewett and thus casually was formed the Congregational Church, though the first election of trustees did not take place until they were ready to buy the lot where now stands the Hotel Deming.

A small building was erected there and was destroyed by a tornado in 1853. The congregation decided to rebuild after the ruins were burned and the new church was dedicated in 1857. In 1871 it was greatly enlarged to almost double its original size and was, after the erection of the new building on Ohio, used for an overall factory until razed for the hotel building.

Lottie Keller's House.

At the northeast corner of Sixth and Cherry stood a large frame house once owned by Joseph O. Jones and occupied for many years by Charlotte Keller as a very popular boarding house. She sold the property to James Hunter for the building of his laundry and he sold

the house for removal for his new building. It now stands at the northeast corner of Sixth and Sycamore.

The Old Seminary.

On the site now occupied by the Administration building of the Teachers College stood the County Seminary built in 1847 by the county as a building for an Academy. Opened in 1848 under the title, "The Vigo Collegiate Institute," it was a high grade school under various managements until sold to the city in 1853 when it became a part of the free public school system. During the early days of the public schools when free schools were suspended for a time, it was a subscription school under "Benny" Hayes and after resumption of the free schools he continued there. In 1867 the city sold the property to the trustees of the Normal School and Mr. Hayes conducted a pay school on Eagle street about where the Library building now stands.

The Doctors' Homes.

On the corner of Seventh and Mulberry, where now stands the Elks Club, was the home of Dr. Clippenger who built a small one-story brick building on the lot where his house stood. Here in succession were the Armstrong brothers Joe and Will, both well liked doctors of the old school. Dr. Joe was murdered one Sunday as he returned from a call in the country, and near the Poor Farm on East Maple avenue. He lived but a few minutes after he was shot and fell from the buggy. The murderer secured but a few dollars and the doctor's watch, but served a long term in the penitentiary for the crime.

Following these two doctors came Moses G. Waters and after him the building was razed for the Elks Club. Ed Waters, a graduate of Rose, installed the first automatic, thermostat controlled damper on the old furnace in the house. His own construction, before the use of electric lighting became common, it was a curious device.

(To Be Continued.)

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Sunday, April 25, 1954.

Eighty Years Ago Main Street Had Some Different Business Signs

By A. R. Markle.

A MINISTER whose church is more than 100 years old was surprised to find that the building in which his church was organized was still standing and in its original condition.

He asked how many other buildings were standing over the



century and this brought about a suggestion that a small group get together and make some short tours through the old town of Terre Haute which is fairly steeped in early history. So it may be of interest to call the attention of those of this and previous generations who are interested in the early history of their town to learn something of these old buildings.

The Christian Church.

This organization is now in its fourth structure, the second and third having vanished. Their first church was organized in a small two-story building on the northwest corner of Third and Cherry, their second was on the east side of Fourth street opposite the old City Hall, which is now a chain grocery, its site has been a vacant lot for over 50 years.

The third location was the brick structure on the south side of what was Mulberry street but which is now a part of the college campus. Until recently it was the college book store. Its neighbor on the west was the home of Miss Condit until its very recent demolition for the construction of a new building for the college.

Judge Deming's Building

This is located on the west side of Third street at the southwest corner of Third and Cherry. South of it still stands the three story brick which was a hospital during the Civil War. The rest of this block contains the Shandy building which is on the site of the home of Judge Farrington.

In his home was held the first service by the Catholic Bishop who found only eight members of his faith to be served in 1837. This building has had a veneer of brick which changed its whole outward appearance. At one time an early newspaper was published on the top floor and the first building west of it was the second home of the Prairie City

Bank. Nearly all the buildings to the west of it are of considerable age but only the present Indo Hotel and the adjoining Modisett Building have passed the century mark.

Another Old Hotel

On the west side of Second street the two story brick building now occupied by an automobile accessory house is what is left of Matthew Stewart's Terre Haute Hotel which was operating in 1834.

The City Hall Building has replaced a series of very old buildings in that block and at the southwest corner of Second and Ohio stands a building long known as Pence's Hall. This was the home of the Spiritualist Society and in the rear of it on Second was the home of Dr. Allen Pence himself.

An Old Home

Farther south on Second street on the east side, the second brick house south of Poplar, is the birth place of Paul Dresser, author of "The Banks of the Wabash."

At the time of Paul's birth this was a one-story house for which his father paid 300 dollars but which he sold five years later for 480 dollars, having in the meantime converted it into a two-story house.

Returning to Ohio street we find on the south side opposite the court house the old Branch Bank of the State of Indiana which was built in 1836. At the northeast corner of Third and Ohio the building which now stands there was occupied from 1867 to 1887 as the Vigo County Court House. All the buildings north of this as far as the alley are more than a hundred years old as is the corner now occupied by Smith's Hardware Store.

Across from this at the northeast corner of Third and Main is Phoenix Row which was first occupied in January, 1852. This building from the engine house on Third street to the alley east of Third was built following a fire, in December 1850, of that entire block.

At the northeast corner of First and Main streets stands a building erected in 1851 by George W. Bement and a partner named Curtice. The half block east of Third street on the south side of Main beginning with the Smith Hardware and extending to the alley are also over 100 years old and from Quinlan's Seed Store to Fourth street is the Warren Block first occupied in 1853. It was in this block where until recently was located the Savoy Theater, in which room Francis

Hulman was located from its opening until 1857 when he bought the building at the northeast corner of Fifth and Main.

On the north side of Main (Wabash avenue) opposite the Warren Block is Union Row and in the third room from the alley, which now houses Goldie's Restaurant, was the original store of Ludowici and Hulman. When this firm came to Terre Haute the old buildings in "Dutch Row" were being demolished and a week later on March 12, excavation started for the present building so Ludowici and Hulman must have first opened in some other location. The same thing is true when the firm dissolved and Herman Hulman opened a store for himself some where in the block between Fourth street and the alley east which he definitely described as across from the Post Office and the Post Office at that time was "opposite the Spinning Wheel."

This establishment was at the northeast corner of Fourth and Main streets and was demolished in 1869 for the erection of the Naylor Opera House. In this building was the third home of the present Root Store and their second location was the present site of the Court House Furniture Store. At the southeast corner of Fourth and Main stood the building still very much the same as in the summer of 1863 when the present First National Bank was organized in the first floor. All of this block from Main to Ohio and from Fourth to the alley east was ruined in a great fire before these buildings were erected.

The Naylor Opera House was destroyed by fire in 1896 and the present building was erected soon after.

Teull, Deming and Ripley.

This firm was organized and occupied a building which stood on the northwest corner of Fifth and Main, its site was later occupied by a building which was destroyed in the great Havens and Geddes fire in 1899.

Meanwhile, Francis Hulman had bought the building in 1857 which stood on the northeast corner of Fifth and Main and the Hulman firm was there until its removal in 1893 to their present location at Ninth and Wabash.

Following their removal the building was demolished and the Havens and Geddes firm erected a building on the site. This was a six-story building occupied as a retail department store, while across the alley to the north was the firm's wholesale department. These buildings were destroyed by the most disastrous fire in Terre Haute history both in property and human lives lost. All the buildings east of this were ruined, including the fourth home of the Root Store which stood on the present site of the Pearson General Store. In the meantime, in 1896 the present Root Building was erected on the south side of Wabash, east of Fifth.

A Hardware Store.

At the southwest corner of Fifth and Main the present buildings were built in 1867 and the corner room became the home of the National State Bank. The second room in this block has always been a hardware store under many different firm names and the present occupants, Pentecost and Craft, have been there for more than 50 years. The building was erected for three different firms and each of the three used a different plan for the front of their property. Next to the hardware store was Sage's Confectionery and Dining Room and the present occupant also carries on candy making which is an almost extinct art in Terre Haute.

On the south side of the present Wabash avenue between Fifth and Sixth almost all the block was built in 1854. The eastern end of it, where now stands the Hook Drug Store, became the old National House and in the corner room in 1856 was the birth of the present Root Store while the hotel occupied all of the Sixth street frontage. The old hotel continued operation until about 1896 under different owners. From then until its demolition the second floor was occupied by offices and the old dining room over the present drug store was headquarters of the old Travelers Protective Association.

Across Main street stood for many years the building now occupied by Silverstein Brothers which was the home of the wholesale house of Bement and Rea. The building on the corner was not built until 1875 but has had many historic associations.

At the northeast corner of Sixth and Main the building was erected in 1867 and for eighty years had no other occupant than a drug store. Its first occupant was Buntin and Armstrong and its last the Gillis Drug Store.

(This series of stories will be continued next week.)

Community Affairs File
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Vigo County Historical Society
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T s MAY 1 1943

Fire destroyed historic landmark

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Over 40 years ago, Vigo County lost two of its most historic landmarks in one year. Only photographs, newspaper clippings, stories and personal memories remain to tell of the existence of two stops on the Underground Railroad.

Even before the capture of Vincennes by George Rogers Clark and his army in 1779, men followed the banks of the Wabash River northward to Detroit, passing through what is now Honey Creek Township, southwest of Terre Haute.

By the time of the War of 1812, a log cabin with a smithy attached had been built on the road which was becoming known as the Harrison Trail. Tools and firearms were made and repaired on the blacksmith's forge. Here shelter of the most primitive kind was provided for man and beast, and early travelers were advised to seek rest and refreshment at this cabin. Later the log cabin was used as the first poor farm in Vigo County.

In 1817 Jesse Jones and his new wife came out from Jamestown, Va., and bought the land where the old log cabin stood. The location was later described as five miles from Terre Haute, one mile west of U.S. 41.

At that time the only road, or trail as it was then, running from Vincennes to Terre Haute came through this property. From Terre Haute the road went on to Lafayette, Fort Wayne and Detroit. The next stop after the Jones farm was Markle's Mill.

The young Joneses cleared ground and planted an orchard. They built a house with walls 12 inches thick. The bricks were made and burned about a mile away at a clay pit and brought to the building site on crude ox carts and

Historically speaking

sleds.

Captain Griggs' brick yard was just east of the Forks, about one mile south of what is now Allendale. This was the second buick house built in Honey Creek Township, and the third brick house built in Vigo County.

Poplar logs were cut for the studing and joists, and the sheathing was whipsawed. The house was built in an unusual way, probably the only one of its kind in the part of the country. Built on the side of a gently sloping hill and partially built into, one could go directly into the upper story from the high ground, and then by going downstairs, come out on the first floor on the lower level.

The upper story had a living room with the original fireplace and three bedrooms. The lower floor had a dining room, kitchen, bedroom and cellar.

James Jones raised plants, trees and shrubs on his farm and sold them, operating the first nursery business in Vigo County. He kept the plants in the first floor of the house and in the cellar which had a large fireplace in one room. This was where he stored his sweet potatoes during the winter.

Many farmers from as far south as Sullivan would bring their potatoes for storage to Mr. Jones, making the trip on foot or horseback. After leaving the potatoes there, they traveled on to Markle's Mill, six miles north of Terre Haute, to have their grain ground.

Mr. Jones and his wife had seven children, all born and reared in this house. They were Emily Jones Budd, Hector Jones, Samuel T. Jones,

America Jones, Kate Jones Blocksom, Elizabeth Jones McCroskey and Ruth Jones Collins.

Following the parents' deaths, the farm was owned by the Jones children until 1913 when it was sold to William J. Clute, a traveling minister. He held the property for seven years, selling it in 1920 to Malcolm A. Steele who had one of the finest dairy farms in Vigo County which produced the only certified milk ever sold here.

Mrs. Steele, the former Nelle Filbeck, was also of local pioneer stock. She and her husband gradually worked the old house over into an attractive and comfortable modern home, retaining the simple lines of the original house.

During the remodeling, the architect noticed a discrepancy in the inside and outside measurements of the living room. A well-concealed secret stairway was found next to the fireplace. Layer upon layer of wallpaper was removed to reveal a small door at one end, up about three feet from the floor. When this was opened, a dark, narrow stairway leading to a small attic room was discovered.

During the years of slavery before the Civil War, this room served as a "station" on the Underground Railroad system by which slaves were smuggled through from the south to Canada and freedom. From here they were sent north to Markle's Mill, the next station.

The Steeles had just about completed the remodeling when fire reduced the historic old landmark to a pile of ruins in May, 1939.

Sunday, October 26, 1952.

(40) More Old Buildings.

Historic Landmarks (TH)

By A. R. Markle.

In our last story on this subject we got as far as Sixth and Wabash and we may as well resume there. On North 6th Street, on the present site of the Chanticleer Building, stood the old Dowling Hall, which, after many years of theatrical entertainments and famous wedding parties, became a cracker factory. To the north of it, at the corner of Cherry, still stands the Koopman Building, occupied for years by Nehf's Hardware Company and the one-time home of Stahl-Urban Company. Across Cherry Street stood the First Baptist Church and in the rear of the main building was a chapel, which was the home of the church before their main building was erected. The minister here was Dr. Henderson, who once announced his resignation because he did not completely accept the tenets of that organization. So determined was the congregation to retain him that they finally persuaded him to remain with them, despite his belief. After several years he retired and joined the staff of a Chicago university, where he was not required to teach, and his only duty was to act as an adviser of the student body.

The Congregational Church.

Diagonally across the street, where now stands the Deming Hotel, was the First Congregational Church, where M. A. Jewitt, Lyman Abbott and others preached for many years. After it was abandoned it was used as an overall factory until it was demolished for the erection of the present hotel. South of the church, at the corner of the alley, was a three-story brick building, which was once occupied by Joseph Strong's Spice Mill.

When our first telephone exchange started, the power for ringing the subscribers telephones was supplied by a small generator belted to a line shaft, so that during the day the operator didn't have to use hand power for operation.

Buckeye Cash Store.

At the southeast corner of Sixth and Wabash stood a large three-story building. The front of this building was divided in two rooms by a stairway, which led to the upper floor. The lower floor of this building contained the Buckeye Cash Store. The second floor was at one time rented to bachelors, while the upper floor held the Terre Haute Commercial College, which was entered by a stairway on the Sixth Street side.

In later years the two floors housed the Kleeman Dry Goods Store. In the basement, entered from the Sixth Street side, was one of our earliest plumbing and gas fitting establishments, operated by "Cap" Hootor. It was in this establishment that the late John Freitag served his apprenticeship and as a journeyman he established the firm of Freitag & Wittenberg, which later became Freitag and Weinhardt, which is now the corporation of that name. At the rear of this building was a small, two-story building, reaching to the alley, which was at one time occupied by the Prairie City Bank. In this building was organized the Terre Haute Savings Bank. The first floor was several feet above the sidewalk and was reached by iron steps at each end of the building. The second floor was occupied, for many years, by the late Buan Vista Marshall. The building was demolished for the extension of the Kleeman Store. Before they occupied the building, the second floor hall continued through the bank building and by an overhead bridge, across the alley and continued the length of the south half-block. The north end of this was our second post office building, erected for the use of the post office in 1869.

After the removal of the post office to Seventh and Cherry Streets, the first floor was occupied by Riddle, Hamilton & Company, insurance and real estate. The second floor was taken over by B. V. Marshall and from this office they moved to their more modern quarters, east of Seventh, on the north side of Ohio.

The balance of this half block, still known as the Beach Block, was built in 1875. The lower floor now is occupied by the Root Store, as is the more modern building back of it on Ohio.

From time to time, as these buildings were erected, the remains of some of our pioneers were uncovered. When this was a vacant lot on which Curtis Gilbert built his second residence, about where the Congregational Church now stands, and in the very earliest days of Terre Haute, it was a common burying ground. Mr. Gilbert buried his first wife on this lot but her body was later removed to the Burying Ground, now taken over by the Can Company. Shortly after Woodlawn Cemetery was opened, her body was removed to that resting place. Again at the opening of Highland Lawn it was taken there. It is believed that this is her final resting place.

In one of our county histories is a romantic story that Mr. Gilbert built his house, so that from one window he could look out upon the grave. There is no record as to how his later wife felt about this memorial of the past.

The Ezra Smith House.

This individual had been in the wholesale and retail liquor business in Phoenix Row and accumulated a small fortune. He built the house, which later became the Turner Home, then the Terre Haute Club and ended its days after housing the Y.M.C.A. for many years. East of this house were many of our fine residences of the early days. One of them the home of the eccentric Martin Sheets, whose totem pole he erected over the graves of his parents in the old cemetery, known as New Hope on the Darwin Road.

Returning to Sixth and Wabash, the present Dollar Store occupies the rooms which at one time housed the W. H. Paige Company,

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Townley Stove Company and still later the Silverman Furniture Store. East of this, in the rooms now occupied by the Woolworth Company, was for many years the Western Union Telegraph Company. They were followed by the Wholesale Drug House of Cook, Bell and Black and after the turn of the century the Dime Store took over. East of this building stood a long frame house, which was demolished in 1896 for the erection of The Root Store. Still further east was the Gilbert Building, a two-story brick extending to the alley. Its upper floor occupied as a lodge hall, with small offices on the second floor. The east room on the first floor was the starting point for the Joseph Strong Tea, Coffee and Spice business. A rather modest retail store, attended by Mr. Strong and his wife, it was later expanded into his spice mill that removed to North Sixth Street. Following this W. W. Oliver carried a grocery store in this building. He was followed by Schuler & Foulkes, which is now the Carl Wolf Store.

In 1879, the paper reports that Hulman and Goetz were erecting a fine stone building, to be used as a furniture store, and this was later occupied by John G Dobbs. In 1944 he was followed by the Kresge Dime Store, which has been there ever since. East of them the Singer Sewing Machine Company occupied the building, until it, too, was taken over by the Dime Store.

East Of Sixth.

Austin Hardware Store had as its neighbor on the east the Havens & Geddes Company, wholesale dry goods and notions, and the O'Boyle Leather Store. Next to this was a long building, built by Chauncey Rose, the eastern portion of which is now Meis Bros. Store. Still further east a three-story brick building was occupied by Dickhout Trunk Shop, and later by Adamson and Anderson, dealers of paints and glass.

The rest of the block, as far as Seventh Street, was vacant and at one time Barnum's Circus showed here. On the east wall of the paint store was an advertisement of a bill poster with the brave announcement that "J. M. Dishon goes forth in haste with bills and paste to proclaim to all creation that men are wise who advertise in the present generation."

The Prairie House.

On the east side of Seventh and Wabash, Chauncey Rose built the Prairie House in 1836, but it was too far out of town and it was, for a few years, a boarding house for many of our early, well-to-do families. It was in this house, shortly after its erection, that Bishop Kemper stopped one night on his way to Missouri, and was asked by some ladies living in the hotel, to hold a service for them. Out of this grew St. Stephens Church. An addition to this house, on the east, were a few additional store rooms fronting on Wabash. Across an alley, that was formerly open there, was a large, vacant lot a few feet below the level of the sidewalk and this was the exercise lot for the mules of the Street Car Company. Fronting on Eighth Street, north of this, was the stables, for in those days our first street car line started at the old Union Station, ran on Chestnut as far as Eighth, south on Eighth to Main Street and there continued west to First Street. The proud, little streetcars bore the title, "Depot, Main & First Streets." The fare was then five cents, but after eighty years the system became a part of high finance. North of the stables Chauncey Rose had built a bath house to use artesian water, and across Cherry Street, at about the north half of the present building, was the home of Zenas Smith, and the writer can remember it, only because in the front yard was one of those October persimmon trees, which shed its fruit and a small boy could reach through the picket fence and gather some of the most delicious fruit then available.

On the east side of Eighth Street, in the middle of the block between Cherry and Mulberry, still stands a large brick building. It was the home of the Universalist Church, which, at last, no longer served its congregation and it stood vacant for several years. Finally a man came down from Chicago with evidence that he was the sole survivor of the original congregation. The court granted him possession and he sold the building. This became the last home of the Terre Haute Library, which finally moved to Seventh and Eagle and now bears the title of Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library, through the generosity of Crawford and Edward P. Fairbanks, whose mother's name was given to the Library. The building then became the shop of the Prox & Burget Company, who sold to the Salvation Army and they sold it for the operation of the Downtown Chevrolet.

The story of many of our early churches is of considerable interest and should be written some

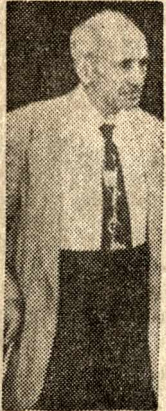
Sunday, June 6, 1954.

Eighty-Year Buildings Still Grace Some Spots On Main St.

Historic Landmark

By A. R. Markle.

IN SEARCH of 80-year-old buildings which still stand on Main street the writer had in mind only a very few. As these papers continue, more and more information comes to him from those who read these stories.



A. R. MARKLE. Of all the buildings now on Main street between Seventh and Eighth, none of them have been here that long, but at the northeast corner of Eighth and Main in what was long known as Washington's Hall. Its upper floor was for a long time the meeting place of many early unions. None of them paid rent directly for the use of the hall, but a dumb waiter communicated with the saloon on the lower floor, and it was customary and perhaps obligatory that preceding the meeting an order would be given for at least a dozen schooners of beer. It made little difference whether the order was given, for the rumbling of the elevator indicated that the foaming beakers were on the way and were never refused. At closing time there was usually another round of schooners for those who had time on their hands and no one waiting at home for them.

Some Familiar Names.

Across Main street still stands a large three-story brick which was at one time the Fleming livery stable, and was once famous as the home of Patsy Mahaney of cracker-jack fame. As this name for candied popcorn was copyrighted, Patsy was obliged to adopt a name to replace the one for the use of which damages were sought, the new name became "You Know."

There are other buildings still standing in this block with very little or no resemblance to their original appearance, but at the southwest corner of Ninth and Main the building has changed a little. For many years it was Eiser's Confectionary and Bakery, and now is Doyle's Drug Store.

Much of the block on the south side of Main between Ninth and the old canal which now bears the name Ninth and One-half street, nearly all these buildings are of the desired age to be included, but little information is available as to their occupancy.

However, there were Reiman and Steeg builders' supplies, Manion's tin shop, Barrett's grocery, John J. Moorhead had a grocery in the block for years, and the corner at Ninth and One-half was graced by Peter Staff's Old Cobweb Hall.

The corner now occupied by Fisher Auto Sales earlier was Shewmaker's Commission House. He was also agent for the Continental Freight Lines, and a painted copy of one of the box cars of that line decorated the Ninth street side. On the north side of Main where now stands the Hulman & Company building that corner was known as the Pig and Whistle. A frame boarding house with a bar room below the north and east side of the building was supported on timbers that extended down into what had been the turning basin for the canal boats that ran to and fro between Terre Haute and Point Commerce opposite Worthington. At the northeast corner, much below the level of the street was the platform of the Turner Warehouse, and tied up to this platform, one after another, the old canal boats loaded or unloaded their cargoes.

One of the most famous shipments received here were the two locomotives which were brought here from New England by way of the Erie Canal, the Lake Erie itself, and the Wabash and Erie Canal, to be unloaded finally and put on the rails of Terre Haute's first railroad.

The old warehouse is gone and only service stations and parking lots have replaced it. On the north side of Main street, east of the railroad, stands one of our oldest buildings which was the first Union Station for the three railroads: The Evansville, Terre Haute, Crawfordsville; The Terre Haute & Indianapolis and The Terre Haute & Alton Railroad. Since 1861, however, the building has been only a freight house, the passenger traffic having moved to Chauncey Rose's Boarding House at Tenth and Chestnut.

First Railroad Story.

The southeast corner of this building served as a starting point for the survey which enclosed the right of way of the first railroad to come into Terre Haute from the south, and this right of way, purchased by W. D. Griswold, started from a point 85 feet south and 85 feet east of the freight house corner. At the northeast corner of Eleventh and Main is a two-story brick which became known as a home of Eugene V. Debbs. It, too, has been on Main street for more than eighty years. On the southeast corner of Eleventh and Main Adam Shoemaker had a meat market from which the writer could get more than a pound of beef steak for a quarter and the kind-hearted butcher would present the youth with a link of sausage or a slice of head cheese unless he included with the steak more than a pound of liver. While alterations were being made several years ago the building collapsed and was rebuilt to become one of the first of the chain of groceries established by Shoemaker's son-in-law, Hollie N. Oakley.

The Dim Past.

At the southwest corner is a building in which, according to Irving Stone, Eugene V. Debbs organized the first of the railroad unions. At the southwest corner

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of Twelfth and Main was a grocery store with the necessary side door where beer was served. This belonged to Pat Mickey who was later with a partner Alonzo Roberts, and with a later partner Louis Bresett occupied the corner where Shoemaker held forth at Eleventh street. Later he returned to Twelfth street as Hickey and Bresett in a building which succeeded the old frame in the early nineties which is still owned and partly occupied by Bresett's son with a grocery store without the beer accompaniment.

On the northwest corner of Twelfth and Main, now Paitson Brothers Hardware Store, was Heinig's Bakery, and diagonally across from this at the southeast corner is a building first occupied by Somes Drug Store and through the years followed by other drug firms until taken over by Lammers Paint Company. This firm had previously operated at the southwest corner of Thirteenth and Main where earlier a drugstore, Neukom and Lammers, was located. In the block between Twelfth and Thirteenth on Wabash there are a number of buildings which could qualify for eighty years on Main street, but the one at the northwest corner is still owned through the eighty-year period by William F. Cronin and his sister, Mrs. Mary Shagley, who followed their father, Jeremiah J. Cronin, in ownership.

At the northeast corner of Thirteenth and Main is a building whose owner and operator and his father have continuously sold groceries since 1865. The present owner, Will Hoff, still does business like the old-fashioned grocery, and still handles old-fashioned merchandise. Where else in Terre Haute can you buy walnuts at Thanksgiving time?

On the southeast corner Jerry Fitzgerald, one time prominent politician and office holder, was in business before he started the famous Jerry's Bakery on Ohio street opposite the courthouse.

Historical Tour of Terre Haute and Vicinity

By DOROTHY J. CLARK.

1. To me, autumn in Indiana is the most beautiful season of the year. The crisp days and frosty nights soon turn the trees into a riot of color. This is a favorite time for many Hoosiers to get in the family car on weekends and drive out into the countryside.

In addition to seeing the beautiful scenery, I like to have a definite goal when taking a drive. So, may I suggest an historical tour of some of our local points of interest?

There used to be a favorite expression, "You can't get there from here," and all routing directions had to start at the Court House. So, we'll start our tour at the Vigo County Court House.

To get in the proper mood, try to be there on the hour (any hour) to hear the Col. Vigo bell in the Court House tower strike. This bell was a gift from Col. Francis Vigo for whom our county was named.

Drive north on Second street from the courthouse. Here, in the low level, was one of the turning basins for the old Wabash and Erie Canal of the 1840's. Turn left at Chestnut street to First street, then north to Sycamore street, and on your left enter the parking lot of the American Can Company. You are now on the site of the Old Indian Orchard Burying Ground where many of our very first citizens were buried, here on the banks of the Wabash River.

Go east on Sycamore street to Third street. Turn left (north) on Third street to Locust street, the former site of Sibley Subdivision. On the southwest corner is the little brick Sibley Schoolhouse now plastered over with concrete. This location is verified in the 1874 Atlas of Vigo County.

Oldest Cemetery.

Continue north on Third street to Woodlawn cemetery, laid out in 1839, the oldest city cemetery in Terre Haute. Veterans of all the wars—the American Revolution, the War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, and the Korean Conflict—are buried here. As you go through the entrance gate at Fourth avenue, notice the young oak tree just to your right, which was recently planted by the local D.A.R. Chapter in memory of the two Revolutionary soldiers buried here, John Hamilton and Joshua Patrick.

cont'd. in *Insert*



Dorothy J. Clark

2. Battle of Fort Harrison, one of the last battles of the War of 1812, when the courageous little group of white settlers and soldiers managed to hold off the Indian attack. Here, too, you may see the old bed of the Wabash & Erie Canal and the tow path used in the 1840's and 50's.

Leaving Fort Harrison, go east on the Fort Harrison Road to North Thirteenth Street, turn north and drive to the end of the pavement. Continue north on this gravel road and you are now traveling on the old Durkee Ferry Road, which led from the ferry at Tecumseh on the other side of the Wabash River to Markle's Mill. About a quarter of a mile from the end of the pavement, you'll find a distinct bend in the road. The farmhouse of the Curvey family is now standing on the site where the men were buried who were killed during the Battle of Fort Harrison. (For the story of the "why" of this historic bend in the road, read my column on Drummer Davis which appeared October 6.)

Retrace your route back to the pavement and turn east on county road 24W. Look for the old Denny Cemetery on the left side of the road. It is completely overgrown, but the name, "Denny," and the date, "1812," are to be found on the entrance posts.

When you reach U. S. Highway 41, at the intersection known as the "Cider Stop," drive north past Roselawn Cemetery until you reach Stop 20. Turn east on 41-E for one mile, left one-half mile on 3N, right 4/10 on 49E to a marked post. To reach the old camping grounds of the Indians, turn left on a field lane at this marked post. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Libbert, present owners of this property, will be only too happy to point out the interesting spots in this area, such as the camping site, the pottery hollow, Spring Creek where flint and Indian artifacts were to be found, etc.

Retrace your route back to road 3N, turn right on road 21E, and just after crossing the C. & E. I. railroad tracks, you will see the old Ostrander homestead (com-

temporaries of the Markle's) on the right side of the road down a private lane. This home is now the property of Mr. Joseph Wagner. It is typical of the log cabin which, as the family grew and became more prosperous, was enlarged, weatherboarded, and converted into a comfortable farm home.

Continue on this country road to U. S. Highway 41, turn south (left) to North Terre Haute, and at the intersection stoplight turn left (east) on Park Ave. to the bridge. Here you will see the remains of the famous old Markle's Mill (built in 1816 and destroyed by fire in September, 1938).

Markle Homestead.

Across the road is the old Markle homestead, built about the same time as the mill by Major Abraham Markle, and now in the process of being restored by the present owner, Tom Larison. Here many picturesque travelers were welcomed with true Hoosier hospitality in the early days.

Before the Civil War, Markle's Mill was used as a link in the Underground Railroad to assist fugitive slaves escaping to Canada. During the Civil War, Confederate prisoners were confined in the cellar of the Markle house in six rooms with iron bars on the windows. All these things are still to be seen. Also notice the hand-made bricks manufactured on the premises. All the lumber was cut and seasoned on the property.

Drive back west on Park avenue to Fruitridge avenue, and turn south past the Markle Cemetery, also overgrown. Here you will see some very early tombstones. There is a legend relating that the first burial in this cemetery was that of a Negro slave in 1805.

Between Haythorn avenue and Fort Harrison Road, on the left side as you drive south on Fruitridge avenue, you pass a two-story brick house, formerly the Myer home, now owned by Mr. Byron R. Smith. This home is an excellent example of an early type brick farm house built in 1876. The date is on the front of the home.

Continue on Fruitridge avenue to its intersection with U. S. Highway 40 at Wabash avenue. Here was established a toll-gate for travel on the old National Road.

Now that I have you back to Fruitridge and Wabash avenues, this will be a good place to stop, but I will continue the tour in my column next week. We will continue from this location and see many more interesting landmarks in this history-filled country of ours.

To Be Continued Next Week—
October 27.

(Insert)

Drive in, turn left to the circle, and see the monument erected to the memory of the Confederate soldiers who died while being held prisoner here during the Civil War.

Leaving Woodlawn Cemetery, turn north of Third street to Maple avenue, and east on Maple avenue to North Seventh street. On the northwest corner of this intersection was Camp Vigo, used during the Civil War days for training, etc. In addition, an early fair-grounds was located here, just west of Seventh street and north of Maple avenue.

Go north on Seventh street to Ft. Harrison Road and turn left a short distance and enter the grounds of the Elk's Country Club, the site of old Fort Harrison built in 1811. On the west side of the present clubhouse is a large marker erected in 1912 to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the famous battle at the Fort.

While here, look south down the river and try to imagine the arrival of the flat boats of the pioneers with their families and all their belongings. Think of the famous

Ret. To Col. 2

Historically Speaking

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Community Affairs File

By DOROTHY J. CLARK,

Historic Landmarks



During the year 1898, the new Merchant's Distillery was the largest building erected in Terre Haute. The new company was formed in New York in August, and the contract was let for building the new plant and work begun on September 10.

Fred B. Smith, of this city, and George E. Emmitt, of Pekin, Illinois, were the acting managers of the concern, with Mr. Smith as president. The new company was incorporated for \$300,000 and planned to erect a 5,000 bushel distillery.

The buildings included a distillery proper, a warehouse, and a dry-house. The largest building was five stories high, some stories being as high as 24 feet and other less. In all, the height was 83 feet. Ground dimensions were 138 by 260 feet.

The warehouse was 90 by 200 feet, part of it two stories high. The dryhouse was 52 by 82 feet and two stories high. The building was built of brick furnished by various local brick making concerns.

The general contract was let to August Fromme for \$65,000. The wood work was done by Central Mfr. Company, with the lumber being furnished by Fromme from his own lumber yards. The ironwork was done at Parker's foundry, and the roof was put on by Simmons of Indianapolis.

NEW STORES

While the distillery was being built, downtown improvements were underway. The store at 628 Wabash Avenue, owned by Susan K. Francis and occupied by the new firm of dry goods merchants, Levering & Son, was being enlarged and modernized with a new front with lights above of prism glass, and refitting and refurnishing in general.

The building permit of \$2,500 included the services of Charles E. Scott, architect, and mill work by Clift, Williams & Company.

The Golden Rule store on Main Street, which belonged to the John O'Boyle heirs, was also thoroughly remodeled during 1898 for Manager Schultz into a modern store.

Architect C. E. Scott planned the improvements, while general contract work was done by W. F. Mauer on a bid of \$2,400. Papering, steam heating, etc., ran the expense up to about \$3,000.

They lowered the floor, putting on a new front and building an addition in the

rear. Prox & Brinkman put in the steam heating plant; Freitag & Weinhardt put in the plumbing and gas, while Mr. Schultz added electricity at his own expense.

On Sept. 10, 1898, the Kleeman Dry Goods Company opened their new store at Sixth and Main streets. The old Beach Block had been remodeled to accommodate the new firm by Floyd & Stone, architects, for W. R. McKeen, property owner. Here again the contractor was August Fromme.

The Kleeman brothers, Samuel E. and Phil S., came here from Shelbyville, Illinois, in 1890 and opened a dry-goods store at 416 Main on March 22. Their business was so successful that three weeks later they leased the adjoining room, and continued until they were able to move into the new quarters.

MAUSOLEUM

Among the structures built in Terre Haute in 1898 was a temple to the dead in Highland Lawn Cemetery for D. W. Minshall. Located just to the north of the center of the cemetery near the main driveway, the mausoleum is ten feet high, with 14 by 18 foundations of solid concrete five feet deep. Built of white Barre granite from Vermont, it is an imposing example of Romanesque style of architecture.

The entrance to the tomb is closed by double doors, the inside one being a solid block of granite, and the outside a beautiful piece of solid brass work made especially for Mr. Minshall, at the Hazeldine machine shop. It is a heavy grilled door with a huge brass lock, one of the most beautiful pieces of such work ever made in this city. In summer, the granite door was swung back, leaving the entrance barred by the brass grillwork and letting in the sunshine to dispel dampness.

The interior of the mausoleum is lined with white polished marble. The floor of the front chamber is laid with fine white tile made by Indianapolis Encaustic Company. The walls and faces of the crypts are lined with white Georgia marble.

In all there are twelve crypts, opening with marble doors. The partitions between the crypts are of two-inch marble.

The roof is composed of three huge stones, the largest being 16 by 20 feet, and the three weighing from 10 to 15

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over

tons each. It was found necessary to construct special wagons to haul these stones to the cemetery.

The walls are very thick, but are built hollow, and are pierced by vents, planned to give a regular circulation of air and prevent accumulation of moisture.

The contract was let to the Terre Haute Stone Company on June 23 for \$8,000. Almost four months were consumed in cutting the stone before erection was actually begun at the cemetery on Oct. 15, 1898. Floyd & Stone, architects, designed the monument for Minshall.

It is amazing how much work was available for architects and contractors during 1898. M.N. Diall hired them to plan the improvements on his South Seventh street home to the tune of \$2,500. Nearly every wall was torn down and archways and sliding doors put in instead of the old-fashioned ones.

A new set of front and back stairs were installed, and a back hall built with a china closet built into the pantry. The whole interior of the house was rearranged and refitted in oak and mahogany, the windows enlarged, and a complete system of modern plumbing and heating put in by Prox & Brinkman.

Since Diall had no use for electricity (he was president of the gas company) the gas lights were still used. Two bay windows on each side were installed, and a large porch was built across the front.

It was very necessary to keep up with the Jones in those days, just as it seems to be 79 years later.

One Hundred Years Ago Terre Haute Was Taking Shape Of Real Town

By A. R. Markle.

(Information taken from the early directories of Terre Haute, now at Fairbanks Library.)

FEBRUARY, 1848, saw in Terre Haute a fairly well built town centered about the courthouse square, it is true, but with extensions along Ohio and Wabash. The residential section was also close to that part which was the commercial portion of the growing town. True, much of it was of frame buildings, destined to expire in flames or to become obsolete, but there was one structure at or near the corner of First and Mulberry that was even then 25 years old. That structure still stands, the oldest example of the brick-mason, Benjamin Gilman's office, Terre Haute's first pork packer.

Time Takes Its Toll.

The old Scott house at Third and Ohio streets, the old Seminary that stood on the Teachers College grounds, old Asbury church, the Buntin House, the Prairie House, McGregor's Iron Store on Wabash, west of second; the old courthouse on the public square, the old Hulman store at Fifth and Wabash, the Stewart House on North Second, the Clark House at First and "Bridge," really Ohio street; the old county jail at Third and Walnut, the Baldwin church at Fifth and Ohio, the Usher house that was for so long the home of Herman Hulman, Strawberry hill also his home before he came to Ohio street, the Easter brewery at First and Ohio, the Holmes foundry, later the car works; the Baptist church at Sixth and Cherry and the Congregational church on the opposite corner, all solid brick structures in their time, are all gone or so altered by time's changes as to be no longer recognizable. Then, too, the old frame buildings of early days are all gone either by the replacement of commerce or destroyed by fire and Terre Haute today is the better for their going.

Modern Replacements.

A solid block of frame structures known as "Dutch Row" that stood on the north side of Wabash avenue west from Fourth street to the alley was one of the first to be replaced by the owners, who joined together to erect "Union Row." The Wabash Courier of Feb. 3, 1850, announced that "Dutch Row on National Road street from Fourth street to the alley is being torn down to make way for a handsome three-story brick for the full half block." There it stands today. Finished quickly, it was first occupied by tenants in September, one of the first being the firm of Ludowice & Hulman in the third room from the alley.

Phoenix Row.

The balance of that block was known as "Scott's Row," a decrepit collection of frame buildings but including a two story brick, for-

merly the "Light Horse Harry" tavern, our second early house of entertainment. On the morning of December 2, 1850, fire broke out in Biehl's coffee house and spread to include all the half block and around the corner on Market or Third street. The loss, in the dollars of those days, was estimated at \$12,000 including the contents. The principal owners were W. D. Griswold, Ezra W. Smith and John Routledge and they joined with the other owners in the erection of the present building, appropriately named for the fabled bird that rose from its own ashes. In the new building at times were the founders of many of our wealthy families. R. & O. Tousey were joined by W. R. McKeen, the "Boy Banker," Ezra Smith, who built the house on Ohio, later the home of the Y.M.C.A., who disappeared the night of his famous dinner party to which Terre Haute society refused to come in toto; W. D. Griswold who later built railroads in Indiana and Illinois and is buried in Woodlawn, and several others.

The Farrington block and its neighbor. At the northwest corner of Third and Wabash is the Shandy Building which was built following a fire that destroyed the home of James Farrington, site of the first communion of the Catholic church in Terre Haute. Across the alley to the north of this building stands the Dole Building and of these the Wabash Courier under date of Nov. 3, 1849, says "Farrington's new two story brick corner of Third and National Road street is done." Further that "Messers Dole have erected a large three story brick on Third street north of Farrington's." In the former was the office of the first telegraph line and it was for a time following the fire across the street the office of the Courier itself. The Dole Building was a hospital during the Civil War and later the home of the fire department now on the opposite side of Third.

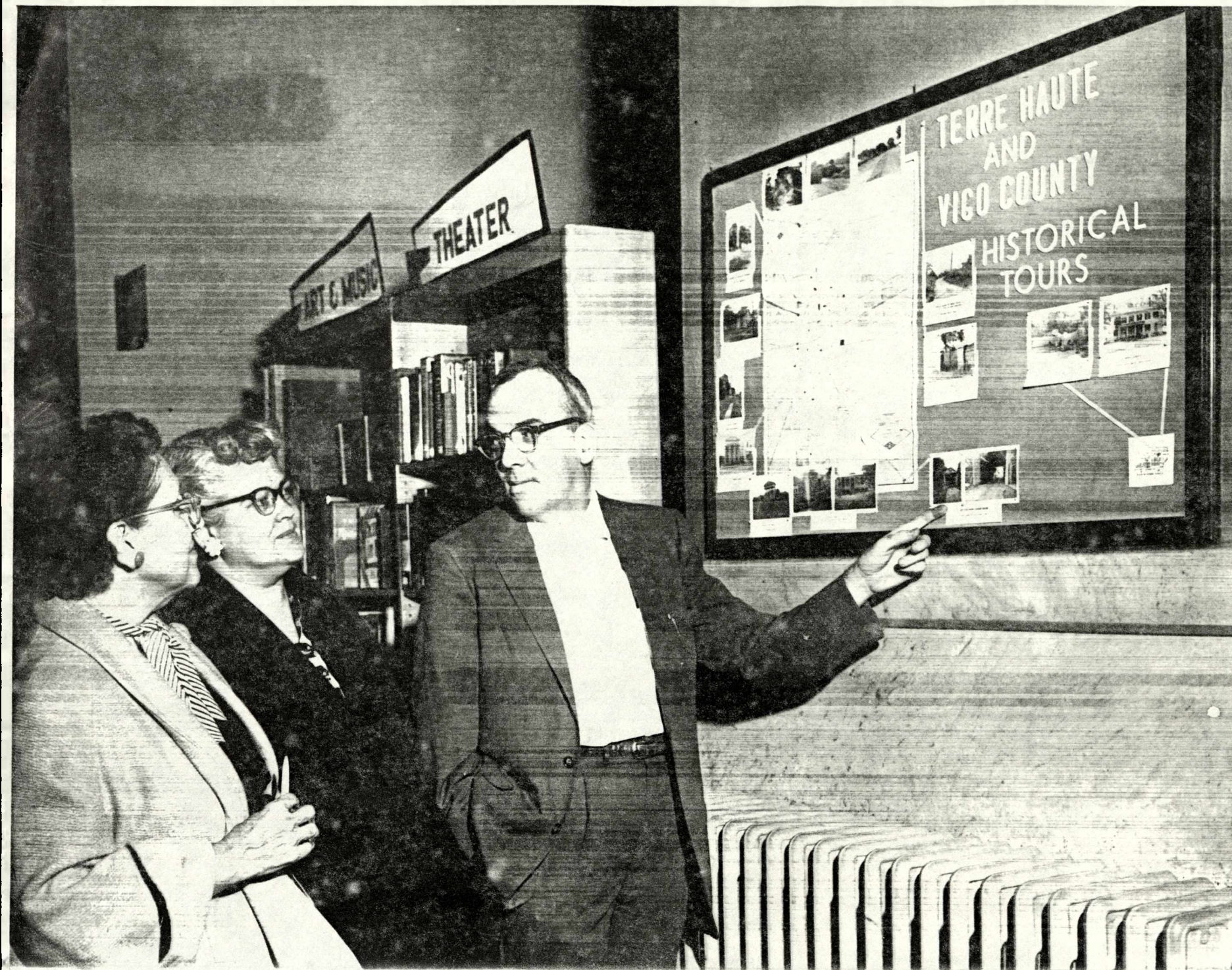
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Landmarks of Early Terre Haute

Editor's Note: The article of which the following is the second and concluding part was given the The Star by William H. Stewart of Indianapolis. Mr. Stewart said that, so far as he knows, the article was never published and was found among some papers belonging to his father, the late George M. Stewart.

The article has not been corrected in any manner from the way in which it was written by John E. Wilkins in 1910. It contains some facts and comment not usually found in historical data concerning Terre Haute.

The first instalment appeared last Friday.

BY JOHN E. WILKINS

Speaking of stages, I recollect my first and only journey in one of those old lumbering leather-springed affairs. Charley Whitman and I took stage one noon for our first journey from home. There were no improved or graveled roads in those days—now and then at swamps and low pieces of ground an attempt had been made to make the roads passable by what was called corduroying, by cutting small trees and laying them along

side each other so as to make it possible to get across and everything that did cross went bumpety all the way over, and it frequently happened that the passengers in a stage coach had to get out and get a rail from the nearest fence and, standing in the road knee-deep, help to pry the stage out of a chuck hole. We found the mud and chuck holes deep and frequent, and we were all afternoon and all night getting to Vincennes, and when we alighted from the stage in the morning it was about all we could do to stand up, we were so tired and sore from jolting over the rough roads. The Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad was just finished to Vincennes at that time and we now took our first car ride. We were four hours going from Vincennes to Evansville.

In our schoolboy days our great and favorite game was shinney-on. Saturdays we would gather on the Common west of the unoccupied Prairie House (later the Terre Haute House) at Seventh and Wabash. There was usually a crowd of 50 or more young men and boys. Our leaders would choose sides and we would play the game with bounds extending from the

Prairie House to Schall's on the alley east of Fourth north side, a distance of 1,200 feet, and there were players, so evenly divided that it sometimes took all day to finish a single game. I wonder how many persons are alive today (1907) who recollect the old oil-mill that stood on the alley between Fourth and Fifth, and Ohio and Wabash. The mill was run by a great tread-wheel about 40 feet in diameter, and motive power was oxen.

There was a distillery at the end of Cherry Street on the bank of the river, and a grist-mill on Seventh Street with the same of tread-wheel as motive

WARY OF OYSTERS

And, the first oysters brought to Terre Haute, it was just after the canal was opened, that about the last boat from the North the close of navigation, and landed at Britton's Warehouse two barrels of oysters—there was nothing to show to whom the oysters were consigned, and when nobody claimed them the barrel of oysters were placed in a

See EARLY TERRE HAUTE On Page 10, Column 4

Early Terre Haute

Continued From Page 1

shed and adjoining the warehouse. The only person who would touch them was Squire Noble and he would go up to the warehouse of an evening and eat his fill of oysters until all were gone. I wonder how long two barrels of oysters would remain at the present day under an open shed. I don't know that people were more honest then, than at the present day, but I do know that punishment was sure and swift at that time. The crimes in those days that gave the most trouble were horse stealing and counterfeiting. The horse thieves had a perfect organization and had regular lines to travel on, with hiding places for the stolen horses all along the routes. One of these lines passed north of town on the old Greencastle Road and there was a hiding station in Nevins Township. The man who kept this station was a well-to-do farmer, and at that time unsuspected. He had a large barn on the side of a hill and an underground stable was dug out of and under the hill here, horses being run off, would be hidden during the daytime and run to the next station across the river the next night. It was certain that the ferryman at Durkees Ferry must have been in with the thieves. Another line passed through Sullivan County and crossed the river at York, Ill. After a sufficient number of horses were gotten together at some point in

Illinois they would be taken South and sold, also at York there was a gang of counterfeiters that had a cave on an island in the river where they made their coin.

A raid was made on the gang at York and some horse thieves and two of the counterfeiters were captured and placed in the Terre Haute Jail and through them I had the scare of my life. My father was the sheriff of Vigo County at that time (1851) and the jail was at Third and Walnut streets, there were but two cells for prisoners in the jail and sometimes there were more than half a dozen prisoners in each cell—the counterfeiters were placed in the back cell with four other prisoners. They had some money and were allowed to send out and purchase such things as tobacco, fruit, etc., and I used to make these purchases for the prisoners. At one time some pewter spoons that the prisoners had used were missing, but the prisoners accounted for them by saying they had accidentally been dropped in the vault. One prisoner had a knuckle out of joint—or said he had—and wanted some plaster-of-paris to make a mould to keep it in shape until well—another prisoner said he had a chill and a bottle of medicine was furnished him and now these counterfeiters had plaster-of-paris, pewter and glass and no one suspected anything. Pretty soon they began to give me half dollars to make purchases for them and I always brought back some change. They kept sending out half dollars and I wondered why, as they had so many quarters that they never sent them out—

one day something was wanted at a hardware store and I went to Potters; there was no fooling old man Potter, he knew as soon as he got his fingers on that half dollar that it was counterfeit. A search of the cell disclosed the mould and a lot of counterfeit half dollars hidden in one of the bed ticks and I was scared stiff. I thought I would have to go to the state prison sure for passing those half dollars.

In regard to hunting, we used to have some pretty good hunting around and about Terre Haute, away back in the Fifties—we would only have to go a short distance across the river to find game in abundance, such as rabbits, squirrels, quail, woodcock, prairie chicken, wild turkey and occasionally a deer was killed, and there were frequent fox hunts in the hills across the river and in the dense woods on the river south of town, and on one occasion the hounds chased a fox through the streets of the town (that is in the early Fifties). There were two packs of fox hounds in the county—one pack owned by long Tom Durham down about Honey Creek, and the other by Andy Caldwell, who had a tannery at Oak and Third streets, the city limits at that time. I can remember when as a boy, seeing those packs of hounds streaming through town on the way to a fox chase.

There was also other game in

Community Affairs File

THE TERRE HAUTE STAR, MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1949.

T.N. LANDMARKS

the neighborhood. I have seen the river south of town black with wild geese and ducks in the Spring and Fall of the year, and cranes by the score on the sand bars up and down the river, and great flocks of big white swans flying down the Wabash River, and wild pigeons would fly over town and west and east of town in such numbers that we could not see the sun for hours at a time and lasting for weeks, and the popping of all sorts of guns for hours sounded like a respectable skirmish line in action.

The schools were all subscription schools, and any person who could get a lot of pupils subscribed could have a room and go to work teaching. The teachers I recollect were all intelligent and educated, and competent to teach in those days—except one man by the name of Frost. He had a school in the Universalist Church at Fourth and Ohio streets. He was not only incompetent, but very objectionable to the pupils—so four of the older boys decided they would run the school to suit themselves. They led the teacher a terrible life. The first trick they played on him was—they caught a big owl and put it in his desk, when he opened the desk out flew Mr. Owl. It frightened him so that he started on a run, caught his foot in some way and fell sprawling to the floor.

PIGS GO TO SCHOOL

The school was in the basement of the church, and one had to go down a rather dark stairway to enter. One Monday morning when

Mr. Frost opened the door and stepped in he found himself in the midst of a dozen or more squealing pigs. He had to hire someone to take the pigs out, and the school had a half holiday.

Another morning, everything was moved out and set up in the grove in order, another half holiday.

A few days after this when he entered the schoolroom he found half of a watermelon on each desk in the room and a whole one on his desk. He was furious and called a meeting of all the fathers of the pupils and found out the leaders and they had to leave school.

Formed a Robin Hood party and went out to shoot red deer made bows and arrows—went to the Farmington woods south of Oak and east of Third streets, and got into trouble again by shooting some man's pigs (for the boys called them red deer). The boys painted their faces, stuck their hats full of feathers and formed a band of Indians. They made frequent marches to Fort Harrison.

At that time all that was left of the old fort was a part of an old block house that a neighboring farmer had been using as a shelter for his cattle—but it became so dilapidated and tumbled down that it had been deserted and the boys took possession of it. Those boys could tell you all about old Fort Harrison and there were plenty of people alive in the fifties that had known the fort from the time it had been abandoned by the government until demolished. If

they were alive today they would be with me in stating that all the logs on God's footstool left of the old Fort Harrison were in that old block house stable.

LAST OF THE 'OLD FORT'

There were several old log cabins in the neighborhood of the old fort site in the early fifties, but no one claimed their cabins were built of the logs of the old fort. These people evidently did not know what a bonanza there was in store for them in having—or pretending to have—something to sell to the state or nation for perhaps ten times its value.

Anyone who ever saw a log and stockade fort would see the absurdity of such a claim as is now put forth by a citizen of Terre Haute.

The old fort stood during the Fremont campaign, and Chauncey Rose employed Gus Chamberlain, a boss carpenter, to look up some sound pieces of the old fort to be made into canes to be presented to speakers and prominent men in attendance at the meeting. Chamberlain tore down the old block house stable and secured three pieces that were sound enough for the purpose and were made into canes, and it was announced at that time, "This is the last of the Old Fort."

Traces of fortifications existed here as late as the Fifties, and the block house was preserved until 1849. After this, disappeared the old rotten logs, which for quite a while were lying around the old

site, and for years the only thing to define the location of the fort was the old well.

SUN
JUNE 24, 1951

VIGO COUNTY QUESTIONS

By Mabel Creel.

Numerous inquiries have come as to some of the locations mentioned in this Sunday feature. We have looked some of them up. If the reader can think of any others, you might drop a line to Vigo Questions, Terre Haute Tribune.

The Old South Mill stood on Thirteenth street, below Crawford. It was flanked by a large mill pond which was a great skating amphitheater during the winter. The mill was operated by Andrew and James Crawford, and some of the officials were Patrick Mohan, William Thompson, Gabe Davis, Will Davis, Tom Davis, William McWilliams, W. H. Wigginton, John Murphy, Mike McNellis, and others.

The Kennedy Pond was on the Anton Maier estate, on East Wabash opposite Highland Lawn. This was also a popular skating place.

Conover Pond was north of Maple avenue, west of Third street, and in time of flood waters it became a large body of water reaching far back into the lowlands nearly to Seventh street.

The Kennedy ice houses were along the west bank of the Wabash south of the Big Four bridge. During the winter, and the harvesting of ice on the Wabash, the product was stored in large barn-like structures in sawdust. The supply lasted nearly the year around, and was served to beer storage plants, food dealers, ice cream makers, and others whose trade required the large blocks of ice.

The Hub and Spoke factory was on North Thirteenth street at Plum street and was a large producer of wagons, wheels, bodies and frames of wagons. Parts of the plant were destroyed by spectacular fires.

The Knapp lumber mills and supply yards were at North Ninth and Eagle streets, and were one of the city's thriving industries in the '70's. The mills and yards were destroyed in one of the "big" fires of early Terre Haute.

Early's Grove was on North Third street, opposite Woodlawn Cemetery and it was there that the civic and patriotic gatherings were held on July Fourth and Memorial Day. Some of the orators of that day were Robert E. Catlin, John E. Lamb, William E. McLean, Senator D. W. Voorhees and Colonel Tom Nelson.

The Harrison and Morton republican wigwam was raised at Seventh and Ohio streets where the Clay Ladd office building is now.

The "show grounds" were at Seventh and Wabash, and there the Gentry Shows, and the Staub animal shows raised their tents. In time the Fairbanks block was built there, and extended nearly to Center street.

Two events long talked about were the encampment here of the Indiana State Militia. This encampment was held in Forest Park, and was marked by some of the largest crowds ever seen here.

The other event was the encampment of the Uniformed Order of the Knights of Pythias. The city of tents was pitched on the Deming farm lands extending from Eighteenth street to Twenty-fifth street. This event attracted crack drill teams from many parts of the country.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

T.H. Historic Landmarks Early City Landmarks Give Way to Progress

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

As I write this column, the area around Seventh and Cherry streets is due for drastic changes. The Indiana State University expansion program marches smoothly forward and progress means many more changes in the city's downtown skyline. Landmarks have disappeared in the past few years and many more will follow.

Diagonally opposite the Waters property which had been purchased as the site for the Elk's Lodge was the Westfall property adjoining the Presbyterian church on North Seventh street.

R. G. Watson represented. Mrs. Nancy, Westfall while I.H.C. Royce represented the Y.W.C.A. The \$16,000 paid for the 75-foot lot figured out to nearly \$214 a foot. The large frame dwelling, the homestead of Perry Westfall, owner and editor of the old Saturday Evening Mail, was to be moved from the lot to make room for the \$50,000 building planned by the Y.W.C.A.

Moving the old Westfall house presented many difficulties. Not the least of these was the problem of sawing the house in two. Even the splitting of the house left such a bulk that the street was blockaded. Several fine shade trees were threatened with destruction by the house passing in the street, and many people believed the trees were worth more than the house.

Sawing the large, two-story house in two was not the only problem encountered by Contractor Charles Marshall, who was hired to move the Westfall house. Property owners threatened to take steps to prevent the moving of the house unless the fine shade trees were protected from damage.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

The house was taken north on Seventh St. then west, and placed on a lot at 6½ St. and the Vandalia Railroad. Cable and electric lines along the route also presented problems.

When Marshall was asked how long the job would take he replied that it would depend on the complaints made by people along the way.

An unknown prankster had placed signs on the old house such as: "Wanted—A sober teamster," and "Laborers who will work."

As late as October 4, 1907, Marshall still could not state whether the transplanted house would be united or "spliced" and again made into one residence, or whether it would be remodeled into two separate houses.

The Rose Dispensary building, northwest corner of Seventh and Cherry, was begun in 1894 and was ready for occupancy in 1895. According to the records the building was to be a five-story structure, of brick and stone, with artificial stone trimmings. Paul R. Dietz, a Chicago architect, planned the building and Heidenreich & Co. were the contractors.

Dispensary Cost \$42,700

The contract price of \$42,700 did not include finishing the first or fourth floors, elevators, gas fittings, steam heating, etc. The plumbing and heating contract of \$5,000 was awarded to Watson & Sons. The first floor facing

Seventh street was to be rented as a free dispensary in the rear. The second, third and fourth floors were to be used for offices and the fifth floor for lodge rooms.

According to the records, architect W. Homer Floyd was responsible for the old Terre Haute House, the Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library, Root Dry Goods Co., Erwin Block, Wheeler Bldg., Herz Store (later Aldens), Filbeck Hotel, Grand Opera House, the Normal School, Be-

Continued On Page 5, Col. 1.

Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

ment flats, and the fine residences of Geo. Foulkes, H. J. Miller, Crawford Fairbanks and J. H. McCoy.

Architect Charles Padgett is credited with the Commercial Distillery Co. and the I.O.O.F. (Odd Fellows) Temple.

Architect J. Merrill Sherman contributed the Cook & Black building (1907) at the northwest corner of 8th and Cherry; Bement-Rea Whole-

sale Grocery, northwest corner 8th and Wabash; McKeen Block; Collett Park Pavilion; and the First Baptist, Tabernacle Baptist and Maple Avenue M. E. churches.

The Vrydagh family were responsible for more landmarks than any other architects. They contributed the Marble Block, Columbian Enameling & Stamping Works, Grantland Foundry Co., Beach Block, German Reformed Church, Catholic Orphan's Home, Indiana State Normal School, Deming Block, Froeb-Cox Block, White Block, Root Glass Co. No. 1 and No. 2, St. Anthony's

Hospital addition, St. John's Catholic Church, Terre Haute High School (Wiley), Terre Haute Opera House (Naylor) the residences of A. L. Pfau, Dr. Patton and Bruce Failey, and the Deming, Rea and Fairbanks schools.

Just because a public building or home is an old landmark is no guarantee it is beautiful—sometimes quite the contrary. It was said about one of our historic buildings that "... it was, and will be, until someone has the simple humanity to destroy it—an unparalleled example of man's ability to create ugliness and what is worse, to live with it."

Another old landmark (now a parking lot) was described by a newcomer as "... red brick Victorian pile of superlative ugliness, too enormous, too intimidating, and too complacent in its unmitigated awfulness to suffer ridicule or perceptive architectural analysis or any other reaction but that of crushing despondency."

Many of the native of Terre Haute wish "progress" was not quite so destructive.

Baffin Bay was named after the explorer William Baffin.

LOCAL HISTORY

Vigo County Public

PAID

T.H. Historic Landmarks

History is hiding in the walls of old buildings, homes

Historical buildings - old buildings - national landmark buildings are three very different classes of structures.

There are more old buildings and historical buildings than national landmark buildings. The latter means only that the structure is listed in the National Registry of Historic buildings and sites, and is attained after applications and approval by the state.

Why do anything about old buildings? Many house historic treasures - lost unless steps are taken to preserve them. A national landmark is a preserved landmark, the owners assuming responsibility.

Many of the structures are unique in architecture, or are museum or art galleries, or house historic businesses.

For example, the GAR Memorial Hall on Ohio is a landmark and a veterans museum. It is presently maintained by the War Veterans Council. This was the first bank in Terre Haute, The State Bank of Indiana, Terre Haute branch. It was established in 1832, and local direc-



Main Street

By Richard A. Tuttle

Assistant Editor Emeritus

tors were Demas Deming, Chauncey Rose, Curtis Gilbert, J. Sunderland, J. D. Early, James McCall, David Linton and Samuel Crawford. The GAR bought the building in 1910.

Preston House at 13½ and Poplar Street was built in 1833 by Major Dewee, a Frenchman. Nathaniel Preston bought it in 1840.

Markle House in North Terre Haute was built in 1848, owned by the Vigo County Historical Society as a gift from Mrs. Anton Hulman.

Several old residences were located on what is now the campus of Indiana State University. The Condit House remains as the home

of President Richard Landini, and was probably built in the 1890s.

Most of you know Butternut Hill, or Highland Lawn Hill. The Blake House there was started in 1831 and enlarged by several subsequent residents.

Terre Haute churches have interesting and long histories. St. Joseph's was the first Catholic Church in 1842. It was remodeled in 1866, and a new church, the present, built in 1910. St. Benedict's was founded in 1865, the second structure in 1896, and the third, within the walls of the second, after the fire of 1930. St. Stephen's was started in 1862, and razed for the present structure in the 1890s.

Asbury Chapel was first built at Fourth and Poplar streets. In 1895 it was moved to Seventh and Poplar, and then razed when the new United Methodist Church was built. Allen Chapel on South Third Street is a national landmark.

The Saratoga Cafe at Fifth and Wabash was the National State Bank when the building was erected in 1867. Also in the same building were the C. S. Crowder Hardware (later

Pentecost and Craft), and the William Sage Candy Store. The building still has the mansard roof.

The Terre Haute Savings Bank was started in 1869, and the building was razed, larger quarters and upper floors added in the new building, which also housed Levin Brothers wholesale firm. When Levins closed, the structure was remodeled again to house only the bank.

The present building of Hulman & Co. was erected in 1892, moving from Fifth and Wabash. The new site included spice and coffee mills, and later peanut butter and jellies were made here. The Clabber Girl building on North Ninth Street was the warehouse for the firm's liquor business at that time.

The Chanticleer building was erected in 1920. On this site previously was Miller-Parrot Baking Co., then Miller Brothers and Dowling Hall, a theater for stage productions only.

The Washington House at Eighth and Wabash was built in 1857, remodeled and enlarged. Trade unions met there. It has housed bookie joints, retail stores, taverns

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and now, a cleaning firm.

Although no date is available, the Milwaukee roundhouse at 15th and Hulman is the only one of four located here as recently as 30 years ago. The C. & E. I., Pennsylvania and New York Central all had repair shops. The diesel engine eliminated the need for them.

Many will remember the first home of the A. P. & S. Clinic at Sixth and Poplar. That was the McKeen House.

The small building in back of Mace Service on the alley was part of the Wabash & Erie Canal offices, first built in 1853. The larger office building was torn down in 1953.

The building at Ninth and Poplar, northeast corner, now an apartment and commercial garage in back, was the Moggie House, built in 1891. It was used by the Terre Haute Brewery, its plant superintendent lived there. The huge white Chesty building on South Ninth Street was part of the Terre Haute Brewery, built in 1890.

The first post office at Seventh and Cherry was built in 1885. This was razed, and the present structure was

erected in 1933. Previous post offices had been located on Fourth and Fifth Streets.

The A. Z. Foster Building was built at 512-14 Wabash Avenue in 1874. It burned in 1963 and was rebuilt. It is the site of the present Haggs and Hillman's stores.

There are old buildings in the county — grain elevators, churches, schools and many barns and residences. Many date from 1850 upward, remaining through flood and cyclone and tornado — and the change in population.

Experts can identify the approximate building date of a residence by the nails used, the glass in the windows (if original), characteristics of construction and the lumber.

We cannot save all our old buildings. A building must have a use, and not all can be museums. Madison, Ind., has made old buildings and residences a business, with history to support the effort.

Complete razing is not the answer either.

A Century of Living at Fifth and Crawford Sts.

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

I am indebted to Grace Tiernan Roberts (Mrs. Donn Roberts), a resident of this city for more than 90 years, for her accurate recollections of old-time residents and former landmarks. The razing of the Talley house at the southwest corner of Fifth and Crawford streets, the proposed site of the new Crawford school, caused her to remember visiting in an earlier home at that location.

At the age of five years she attended a memorable Christmas party in the original house built on this site by William D. Griswold, prominent local attorney. The Griswold family were close friends



Dorothy J. Clark

ess discovered the quality of his work.

One county history relates that Griswold was "exceedingly aggressive in his practise, indeed quite partisan, ready to fight every time it came his turn, acquiring great wealth in business; a thorough scholar, and a cynical, biting, terse writer."

Another source states that Griswold landed in Terre Haute prior to 1838 "endowed with the change of a half dollar." He boarded at the Prairie House which was kept at that time by Theron Barnum. His law partner became John P. Usher. Griswold retired from practice in 1854 and with Chauncey Rose built the first railroad line from Vincennes to Terre Haute. Always interested in transportation, he was also involved in the last two years of the Wabash and Erie Canal. Beginning as a school teacher this early citizen became a very successful lawyer and business man.

Ross Acquired Land.

In 1833 Henry and James Ross acquired part of the land and sold Outlot No. 62, a little over four acres, to James Farrington, who in turn sold it to William D. Griswold on February 28, 1849 for \$1,000. Sometime after this date Mr. Griswold built the first house on the land, the one that Mrs. Roberts remembers.

It was told that William D. Griswold came to Terre Haute on foot, stopping at a farmhouse near Fort Harrison to ask for his dinner. He offered to work in payment. The woman of the house somehow got the idea that he was a tailor by trade and asked him to cut out a pair of pants for her husband. Young Griswold knew nothing of the tailor's art, but went to work and cut out the cloth according to his best ideas. As soon as he got his dinner he hurried away before his host-

ess discovered the quality of his work.

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Sold House to Sisters.

In the spring of 1872 William D. Griswold and his wife, Maria L., sold the house and land to The Sisters of Providence of St. Mary's of the Woods for \$25,000. At this time the property extended from Fourth to Fifth streets, and from Crawford to Deming, what is now the entire city block.

The Griswold stable was used as a schoolhouse by the Sisters until St. Joseph's school was built at Fifth and Walnut streets, when they sold the property to John G. Shryer for \$30,000 in 1876. Ten years later Mr. Shryer and his wife, Ella M., sold to Elisha Havens for the same price.

Elisha Havens subdivided the land into ten lots, six equal lots

facing on Fourth street, three equal lots facing on Fifth street, and Lot No. 10 which was designated in the abstract plat dated 1888 as "E. Haven's homestead."

Eleven years later in 1899 Elisha and Fannie A. Havens of Indianapolis sold Lots 7, 8, 9 and 10 to James S. and wife, Bettie B. Barcus for \$22,500. Old time residents referred to Mr. Barcus as "a mushroom who sprang up over night. He was not a 'Terre Haute man,' but his wife came from Sullivan County. It seems he came here to establish residence to run for Congress from this district. Mrs. Barcus' sister, a school teacher, lived with them.

Although the Barcus couple entertained lavishly with much elegance and display, they were not popular. In fact Mr. Barcus could not get enough signatures on his petition and therefore did not get his name on the ticket. The "natives" were terribly shocked when the Barcus household had carpets tacked down over the beautiful hardwood floors, an unheard of thing in those days.

McKeen Bought Home.

The abstract shows evidence of the so-called elegance and display by listing one mortgage after another on the property while it was owned by Mr. Barcus. In 1904 Barcus sold the property to Frank McKeen for \$25,000 and the McKeens occupied the beautiful old home until it was torn down after World War I.

The abstract states that in February, 1922, a mechanics lien was filed by Frank Wilson against Anna C. Bement and Bruce Bement which mentions the "dwelling house recently erected thereon." The architects were Stegmeyer and Kennedy.

In 1926 the Bement family sold the property to Walter M. Talley and his wife, Edna S., and it became known over the years as the 'Tally House.' Mr. Talley was the grandson of J. Smith Talley. The grandfather was teaching schol when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in 1862 in the First Independent Battery, Light Artillery, of Delaware and served until 1865, as a first sergeant and then as a lieutenant.

At the close of the war he again became a school teacher in Illinois until he became interested in the coal mining industry. In 1875 he became one of the owners of the Coal Bluff Mining Company here in Vigo County. At one time the company owned about 1,500 acres of coal land and was shipping 15,000 car loads of coal annually.

This thirty-eight-year-old Talley house, the second house built on this site, has just been torn down to make way for the new Crawford elementary school which will soon be erected at this location. It's interesting to note

that over 85 years ago school was taught on this very same spot. The study of just one property can yield much interesting history of local families.

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Emeline Fairbanks Mem. library

Early Terre Haute: Memories of Some Landmarks

Editor's Note: The following article was given to The Star by William H. Stewart of Indianapolis. Mr. Stewart said that, so far as he knows, the article was never published and was found among some papers belonging to his father, the late George M. Stewart. The article has not been corrected in any manner from the way in which it was written by John E. Wilkins in 1910. It contains some facts and comment not usually found in historical data concerning Terre Haute.

BY JOHN E. WILKINS

The Old Spinning Wheel corner was a dry goods and general store, kept by one Rheinard, at the northeast corner of Fourth and Wabash streets. The building was a one story with a square top brick front, and on the east and west corners of this front was perched an old-fashioned spinning wheel.

On the southeast corner of Fourth and Wabash streets stood a long two-story frame building with an outside stairway on Fourth

Street. This was the barracks for recruits during the Mexican War.

At the southeast corner of Third and Walnut streets was McCabe and Whitmans Hat Factory.

At the same street crossing, northwest corner, was the old County Jail.

At the same street crossing, in the middle of Third Street, was the first Market House.

At Third and Oak streets was the tannery of Andy Caldwell who also kept a pack of fox hounds. This was on the southeast corner.

The old City Hall was about sixty feet north of Third and Ohio streets, east side of street. Here the City Council met, the mayor held court, and the upstairs hall was used for dancing parties and all kinds of public entertainments.

FIRST SCHOOL HOUSES

The first school houses that were used exclusively for school purposes in the late forties, were a small brick building at Fifth and Walnut streets, northwest corner, and the Henry Teel School Building in the north end of town at Third and Locust streets, on the southwest corner. Later the County Seminary was built and used

for common school purposes. This building was on North Sixth Street, east side, between Cherry and Mulberry streets where now stands the State Normal School Building, and Moses Soule had a private school building on South Fifth Street near College Street. I think east side of street, and Rev. John Covert had a Female College on west side of Sixth Street, being a part of the building now occupied as St. Anthony's Hospital. The other schools carried on in the basements of the churches. I believe a small building on North Fifth Street near Chestnut was used by teacher Aunty Bishop for school purposes. All these schools were subscription schools, there being no free public schools at that time. The teachers of these schools were Charles T. Noble, Nathaniel Preston, Henry Teel, Benny Hayes, Charles Anderson, Charles Frost, J. B. L. and Moses Soule, a Professor Ross, Miss Hersey, Aunty Bishop, Miss Manson, Miss Lizzie McKennon, Miss Emily Williams, Miss Lizzie Dessert and Miss Mead. The majority of the female teachers taught as assistants to the men.

There was an oil well on the al-

ley of the square between Fourth and Fifth streets and Ohio and Wabash. The motive power was a great tread-wheel about 40 feet in diameter and set at an angle, the upper part, say, 20 feet from the ground. Oxen were used to turn the wheel, always going up, but never reaching the top, as the wheel kept going around and around.

MILL ON SOUTH SEVENTH

A grist mill on South Seventh Street had the same motive power—a great tread wheel. The owner of this mill was the Rev. Samuel Sparks, a Baptist preacher. There were no ministers in those days, only preachers of the Gospel.

There was also a distillery at Cherry Street and the river, operated by a tread-wheel.

There was a grave yard at the northeast corner of Sixth and Ohio streets.

Also one on North Water Street, west of the street and south of the Vandalia bridge near Sycamore Street.

The first Post Office was on

North Fifth Street about 200 feet north of Wabash Street, west side of street.

Then on Second Street, east side of street.

Then on South Third Street, east side of street, and about the middle of the square and opposite the Court House.

Then on Wabash Street, south side of street and about 100 feet east of Fourth Street.

Then on South Fourth Street, west side of street, 150 feet from Wabash Street.

Then on South Sixth Street, east side of street, 150 feet from Wabash Street.

GOVERNMENT BUILDING

Then to the Government building, Seventh and Cherry streets.

The old circus ground was at the northeast corner of Fifth and Ohio streets, then at Seventh and Walnut streets.

The Saturday playgrounds of the town boys was the Common, from the old Prairie House at Seventh and Wabash streets west to

Schawls Bakery on the alley between Fourth and Fifth streets on the north side of Wabash Street, a distance of about 1,300 feet. Here on Saturdays the boys would collect and under their leaders choose sides and play all sorts of ball games in vogue at that day such as baseball, bull pen and shinney. The latter being the favorite game with bounds the length of the commons. Strawberry Hill was what might be called the winter playground of the boys and girls. The hill proper extended from Third to Seventh Street and north of Hulman Street—here was good coasting on sleighs in Winter, and the Hill was also noted as the place where one Dyas was executed for murder, it being the first legal hanging in the County.

The first Gas Works was at Fifth Street and Vandalia Railroad, or the old Canal line across the city.

Chauncey Rose's old store room northeast corner of Sixth and Chestnut streets. It was a one-story frame building about 18 feet wide and 25 feet long and painted a dirty red color, and faced on Chestnut Street, with a door on Sixth Street at the corner, with the "C. Rose Store" over the door. This building was first at Ohio and First streets where C. Rose did business.

The old silk worm house was at Sixth and Eagle streets, northwest corner.

The old Pork House Theater was on the west side of the alley, on south side of Mulberry, between Second and Third streets.

LOST CREEK BRIDGE

The old yellow bridge across Lost Creek was about one-fourth of a mile east of the present City Park—late Gilbert residence, on the old National Road and east of town. This was a double bridge built almost entirely of wood. The

frame being put together with wooden pins and the floor held down by stringers secured with wooden pins. All the iron in the structure was the nails in the roof and weather boarding on the sides. The bridge rested on beautifully cut stone and was built by the general government.

The building where the Rebel prisoners of war were confined was the Farrington and Krumbhaar Pork House at about 1800 South First Street.

The first Terre Haute orchestra was Gregg and Glazier, of two instruments.

DO NOT CIRCULATE

picnic — May. Queen — procession and all.

The old road houses of stage day times were the "Watton Cottage" four miles north on Lafayette Road.

The "Redford House" stood at about Eighth Street and Lafayette Avenue, across the road east and opposite the Redford place was one of Terre Haute's famous race tracks.

'FOUR-MILE HOUSE'

The "Four-Mile House" on the National Road east of town.

The "National Road House" on Wabash Avenue west of Eleventh, south side of street and was well out in the country in the early fifties.

These road houses were not the road houses of the present day, but were respectable houses of entertainment. In those days after the first heavy snowfall and the Winter had well set in one could expect good sleighing all the Winter and everybody that had a horse also had a sleigh, and the young men of the town made great sleighs drawn by four horses. The sleighs, holding from 20 to 30 people and parties would be made for visits to the road houses for dancing and other entertainments. One notable sleigh that was built by Cone and Weatherwax, a firm of young carpenters, the bed of this sleigh must have been 30 feet long and rested on two sets of runners. The bed was made of twisted rye straw, the ropes of straw perhaps two inches in diameter. These ropes were woven in and out between upright stakes set in stringers fastened to the runners. The front and rear of the bed must have been 10 feet high and curved down to about 6 feet high in the center of the sides of the body of the sleigh. On each side of the driver's seat were beautifully-carved swans' heads with long curved necks. There was a door in the rear like the door of an omnibus and when this was closed no wind could reach the inmates. The sleigh would hold 50 people and with six horses, driven by Si Bullard, Terre Haute's most accomplished and noted stage driver, was a sight worth seeing.

The taverns or inns of the town were:

The "Buntin House" on South Third Street, east side between Ohio and Walnut streets—in its time the leading hostelry of the town. It was first opened in 1831 by a Frenchman named Levy, who called it the "City Hotel." Later a man named Brown became the landlord and it was known as "Brown's Hotel." Brown was succeeded by T. C. Buntin, the most popular landlord the town ever had, and went by the name of "The Buntin House" for 50 years, and long after Mr. Buntin had ceased to be its landlord. Here 15 to 20 stage coaches, drawn by four horses, would round up daily and disgorge their loads of humanity.

The "Indian Tavern" was at First Street and Wabash Avenue,

southeast corner. This was first known as the "Eagle and the Lion."

The "Clark House" at First and Ohio streets, northwest corner.

The "Stewart House" was on North Second Street, west side of street, and about 100 feet north of Wabash Avenue.

The "Green Tree" at southeast corner Second and Cherry streets.

The "Broadway" at northeast corner Third and Cherry streets.

The "White Hall" southeast corner Third and Mulberry.

The "Pavilion" northeast corner Fifth and Cherry streets.

The "Prairie House" northeast corner of Seventh and Wabash.

Dayton Topping had an "Inn" at Fourth and Wabash, southeast corner.

Guy Welch played at keeping tavern in a three-room house at northwest corner of First and Cherry, but his efforts were looked upon as a kind of joke by people generally and a saying used by the boatmen on the Wabash-Ohio and Mississippi rivers, from Lafayette, Ind., to New Orleans, was "Oh yes, like Guy Welch keeps tavern."

FIRST LOCOMOTIVE

The first locomotive engine ever brought to Terre Haute was for the Terre Haute & Indianapolis Railroad and came by the way of the Wabash and Erie Canal from the lakes and was landed or unloaded at the basin at Wabash Avenue.

The first railroad iron was for the same road and was of English make and was brought by river from New Orleans in great Mississippi River boats, some so large that even when the river was in flood or during the January thaw and rise of water the boats had to anchor out in the stream and throw the iron into the river and when the water receded the iron was loaded onto wagons and hauled to the railroad.

The Chauncey Rose pasture was east of Seventh Street and north of Wabash Avenue and extended to Chestnut Street as late as the early fifties. There was a gate where now Cherry Street crosses Seventh Street, where the milch cows of the town were let in and out of the pasture.

Fort Harrison was located two miles north of the Court House on the bank of the Wabash River.

Terre Haute was laid out and platted in 1816—the name is a French word and means "land high," the town being on a high bluff.

The first man to turn a furrow in Vigo County for farming purposes was Joseph Liston in 1811, and who had a farm two miles and a half southeast of the Court House.

The first fire company was organized in 1846 or 1847, Melville D. Topping was captain.

The first military organization was a Dragoon Company in the middle forties by Major Huntington, who became its captain. About the same time an infantry com-

The Terre Haute branch of the State Bank Building was on Ohio Street between Second and Third streets, south side, middle of square.

The old stone house built by Mayor Duwees, and later the Nathaniel Preston homestead, was at southeast corner of Fourteenth and One-half and Poplar streets, erected in 1838.

The first frame building was built for Curtis Gilbert on the bluff at the foot of Ohio Street—north side of street.

The first bridge across the Wabash River was built from the foot of Ohio Street.

EAGLE STREET BASIN

The Wabash and Erie Canal ran down the river to Wabash Street with a large basin at the foot of Eagle Street and then passed under the First Street bridge into another large basin and then at Second and Chestnut Streets passed through double locks and run north to where the Vandalia Railroad now (1910) has its tracks, then east to just beyond Ninth Street and then south to the city limits, with a double basin at Wabash Street.

The old Indian Orchard in the north end of town was on the bluff south of Locust Street and west of First Street.

The Charles Haines flat boat yard was at the foot of the bluff at the old Indian Orchard.

Dr. Parsons had an apple orchard on South Seventh Street near the city limits.

Chauncey Warren had an orchard on South Sixth Street near Oak Street.

Demas Deming had an orchard at Sixth and Poplar streets.

Curtis Gilbert had an orchard on Wabash between Sixth and Seventh streets.

John F. King had an orchard about where Sixth and One-half Street now is, and north of Chestnut Street.

Alexander McGregor had an orchard on Sycamore Street between Fifth and Sixth streets.

Salmon Wright had an orchard at northeast corner of Third and Oak streets.

Wallace had an orchard on South Water near Oak Street.

Joseph Miller had an orchard on North Second Street and north of Chestnut Street. This latter orchard was where the Henry Teel School of the North End used to hold their May Day outing with a

Cont'd. P. 3 Col. I.

T.H. Historic Landmarks
T.H. Trib-Star 3/10/68

Historical Landmarks Line South of Wabash

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Beginning at the southwest corner of Fifth and Wabash, we find the century-old National State Bank building, now the Saratoga Restaurant, built in 1867. It was erected under joint ownership of the bank and two adjacent owners on the west.

Each of these owners had his own plan for the front of his part of the building—the bank chose terra cotta, the hardware store of Cory & Crowder chose brick, and W. H. Sage, confectioner and baker, chose stone. Mr. Sage also built his home the next year, 1868. This is the building at 1411 South Sixth owned by the Vigo County Historical Society and used for the Historical Museum.

Continuing west on the south side of Wabash we find Mechanics Row, located on

Lot No. 41 between Fourth street and the alley west. It was built in 1856 by a combination of several owners headed by Wm. B. Purcell who acquired the lot following the death of Thomas H.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

Blake in Jan., 1849, and who had subdivided it into lots. This building is now 112 years old, but still in use and occupied by Smith's Department Store.

The Linton Block is also still with us although it was built in 1846. Located at the southeast corner of Main and Market, now 3rd and Wabash, it was occupied by Cook & Bell, wholesale druggists. When they moved their store farther east on Wabash

between 6th and 7th Sts., this building was occupied by C. C. Smith, and the name is still used by Smith's Hardware Store at that location.

The Kidder Mill, located on the southwest corner of Main and Water Sts., was one of the last of many flour mills in this city. During and after the Civil War it was owned and operated by Willard Kidder. At the time he bought it, it was a brewery which had been closed by the Revenue Dept. Mr. Kidder installed the milling machinery.

Later, the mill was sold to W. L. Sparks of Alton, Ill., who finally gave it up due to the competition of the great milling companies using water power and the harder wheat from the Dakotas. The mill was partly demolished and only a small part of it remained as a section of the Motor Truck transportation industry.

Only Stone Arches Remain

Nearby on the northwest corner of 1st and Ohio on Lots 225 and 226 bought by James S. Clark in 1849 is the Clark house, or what remains of it. A three-story addition was built in 1854, and it was conducted as a hotel under various owners until its 1889 owner turned it into a wagon yard only. Now the M. D. Cohen & Co., the stone arches over the ground floor windows and doors are the only visible sign of its former stately elegance as a fine hotel for local residents.

Fearn's Store, built about 1838 on Lot No. 145 on the south side of Ohio directly opposite the courthouse, is also still with us, but now remodeled into a one-story garage for Weust Motors, after housing Jerry's Bakery and the Bell Bakery.

Located on the southwest corner of 2nd and Ohio is the Old Pence Hall, built in 1859 on Lot No. 168 by Dr. Allen Pence for his drug store. The upper floor was headquarters for the Spiritualist Society. This is now Downey & Robbins Farm Service Hatchery and the building is still sound after its 109 years.

Judge Mack's office, located on the west end of Lot No. 67 on the north side of Ohio at the alley west of 4th St., was a well-remembered landmark before it fell into disrepair and was torn down.

It was occupied by Judge Wm. G. Mack from 1859 until his retirement in 1890 as judge of the Vigo County Circuit Court. He died in 1898.

The Wabash & Erie Canal office, located on the south side of Ohio east of 6th St., where Mace Auto is now, is also a well-remembered landmark by many older citizens.

Built in 1853 by the Canal Co. for use as an office and residence of its manager, it was sold to a company headed by Wm. B. Tuell when Thomas Dowling took over management of the canal in 1865 and moved his offices to Dowling Hall. For many years this building was the home of Geo. W. Bement and later the offices of the Terre Haute Auto Co. until it was demolished in 1932 to make way for the present building.

Demolished just recently was the Zenas Smith house, located on Lot No. 53 on the southeast corner of 4th and Poplar Sts. This old brick was built in 1840 by Sidney Goodwin for Zenas Smith. The site now is the new Virgil Morris Labor building.

Buildings come and go in Terre Haute, and it's interesting to know the history of the older ones we have left standing.

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INDIANA ROOM

Landmarks of Early Terre Haute ^{12/12/49}

Editor's Note: The article of which the following is the second and concluding part was given the The Star by William H. Stewart of Indianapolis. Mr. Stewart said that, so far as he knows, the article was never published and was found among some papers belonging to his father, the late George M. Stewart.

The article has not been corrected in any manner from the way in which it was written by John E. Wilkins in 1910. It contains some facts and comment not usually found in historical data concerning Terre Haute.

The first instalment appeared last Friday.

BY JOHN E. WILKINS

Speaking of stages, I recollect my first and only journey in one of those old lumbering leather-sprunged affairs. Charley Whitman and I took stage one noon for our first journey from home. There were no improved or graveled roads in those days—now and then at swamps and low pieces of ground an attempt had been made to make the roads passable by what was called corduroying, by cutting small trees and laying them along

side each other so as to make it possible to get across and everything that did cross went bumpety all the way over, and it frequently happened that the passengers in a stage coach had to get out and get a rail from the nearest fence and, standing in the road knee-deep, help to pry the stage out of a chuck hole. We found the mud and chuck holes deep and frequent, and we were all afternoon and all night getting to Vincennes, and when we alighted from the stage in the morning it was about all we could do to stand up, we were so tired and sore from jolting over the rough roads. The Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad was just finished to Vincennes at that time and we now took our first car ride. We were four hours going from Vincennes to Evansville.

In our schoolboy days our great and favorite game was shinney-on. Saturdays we would gather on the Common west of the unoccupied Prairie House (later the Terre Haute House) at Seventh and Wabash. There was usually a crowd of 50 or more young men and boys. Our leaders would choose sides and we would play the game with bounds extending from the

Prairie House to Schall's Bakery on the alley east of Fourth Street, north side, a distance of about 1,200 feet, and there were so many players, so evenly divided that it sometimes took all day to play a single game. I wonder how many persons are alive today (1910) who recollect the old oil-mill that stood on the alley between Fourth and Fifth, and Ohio and Wabash. This mill was run by a great tread-mill about 40 feet in diameter, and the motive power was oxen.

There was a distillery at the foot of Cherry Street on the bank of the river, and a grist-mill on South Seventh Street with the same kind of tread-wheel as motive power.

WARY OF OYSTERS

And, the first oysters brought to Terre Haute, it was just after the canal was opened, that about the last boat from the North before the close of navigation, brought and landed at Britton's Warehouse two barrels of oysters—there was nothing to show to whom the oysters were consigned, and as nobody claimed them the barrels and oysters were placed in an open

See **EARLY TERRE HAUTE**
On Page 10, Column 4

Community Affairs File

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VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Early Terre Haute

Continued From Page 1

shed and adjoining the warehouse. The only person who would touch them was Squire Noble and he would go up to the warehouse of an evening and eat his fill of oysters until all were gone. I wonder how long two barrels of oysters would remain at the present day under an open shed. I don't know that people were more honest then, than at the present day, but I do know that punishment was sure and swift at that time. The crimes in those days that gave the most trouble were horse stealing and counterfeiting. The horse thieves had a perfect organization and had regular lines to travel on, with hiding places for the stolen horses all along the routes. One of these lines passed north of town on the old Greencastle Road and there was a hiding station in Nevins Township. The man who kept this station was a well-to-do farmer, and at that time unsuspected. He had a large barn on the side of a hill and an underground stable was dug out of and under the hill here, horses being run off, would be hidden during the daytime and run to the next station across the river the next night. It was certain that the ferryman at Durkees Ferry must have been in with the thieves. Another line passed through Sullivan County and crossed the river at York, Ill. After a sufficient number of horses were gotten together at some point in Illinois they would be taken South and sold, also at York there was a gang of counterfeiters that had a cave on an island in the river where they made their coin.

A raid was made on the gang at York and some horse thieves and two of the counterfeiters were captured and placed in the Terre Haute Jail and through them I had the scare of my life. My father was the sheriff of Vigo County at that time (1851) and the jail was at Third and Walnut streets, there were but two cells for prisoners in the jail and sometimes there were more than half a dozen prisoners in each cell—the counterfeiters were placed in the back cell with four other prisoners. They had some money and were allowed to send out and purchase such things as tobacco, fruit, etc., and I used to make these purchases for the prisoners. At one time some pewter spoons that the prisoners had used were missing, but the prisoners accounted for them by saying they had accidentally been dropped in the vault. One prisoner had a knuckle out of joint—or said he had—and wanted some plaster-of-paris to make a mould to keep it in shape until well—another prisoner he had a chill and a bottle of

medicine was furnished him and now these counterfeiters had plaster-of-paris, pewter and glass and no one suspected anything. Pretty soon they began to give me half dollars to make purchases for them and I always brought back some change. They kept sending out half dollars and I wondered why, as they had so many quarters that they never sent them out—one day something was wanted at a hardware store and I went to Pottery; there was no fooling old man Potter, he knew as soon as he got his fingers on that half dollar that it was counterfeit. A search of the cell disclosed the mould and a lot of counterfeit half dollars hidden in one of the bed ticks and I was scared stiff. I thought I would have to go to the state prison sure for passing those half dollars.

In regard to hunting, we used to have some pretty good hunting around and about Terre Haute, away back in the Fifties—we would only have to go a short distance across the river to find game in abundance, such as rabbits, squirrels, quail, woodcock, prairie chicken, wild turkey and occasionally a deer was killed, and there were frequent fox hunts in the hills across the river and in the dense woods on the river south of town, and on one occasion the hounds chased a fox through the streets of the town (that is in the early Fifties). There were two packs of fox hounds in the county—one pack owned by long Tom Durham down about Honey Creek, and the other by Andy Caldwell, who had a tannery at Oak and Third streets, the city limits at that time. I can remember when as a boy seeing those packs of hounds screaming through town on the way to a fox chase.

There was also other game in

the neighborhood. I have seen the river south of town black with wild geese and ducks in the Spring and Fall of the year, and cranes by the score on the sand bars up and down the river, and great flocks of big white swans flying down the Wabash River, and wild pigeons would fly over town and west and east of town in such numbers that we could not see the sun for hours at a time and lasting for weeks, and the popping of all sorts of guns for hours sounded like a respectable skirmish line in action.

The schools were all subscription schools, and any person who could get a lot of pupils subscribed could have a room and go to work teaching. The teachers I recollect were all intelligent and educated, and competent to teach in those days—except one man by the name of Frost. He had a school in the Universalist Church at Fourth and Ohio streets. He was not only incompetent, but very objectionable to the pupils—so four of the older boys decided they would run the school to suit themselves. They led the teacher a terrible life. The first trick they played on him was—they caught a big owl and put it in his desk, when he opened the desk out flew Mr. Owl. It frightened him so that he started on a run, caught his foot in some way and fell sprawling to the floor.

PIGS GO TO SCHOOL

The school was in the basement of the church, and one had to go down a rather dark stairway to enter. One Monday morning when

Mr. Frost opened the door and stepped in he found himself in the midst of a dozen or more squealing pigs. He had to hire someone to take the pigs out, and the school had a half holiday.

Another morning, everything was moved out and set up in the grove in order, another half holiday.

A few days after this when he entered the schoolroom he found half of a watermelon on each desk in the room and a whole one on his desk. He was furious and called a meeting of all the fathers of the pupils and found out the leaders and they had to leave school.

Formed a Robin Hood party and went out to shoot red deer made bows and arrows—went to the Farrington woods south of Oak and east of Third streets, and got into trouble again by shooting some man's pigs (for the boys called them red deer). The boys painted their faces, stuck their hats full of feathers and formed a band of Indians. They made frequent marches to Fort Harrison.

At that time all that was left of the old fort was a part of an old block house that a neighboring farmer had been using as a shelter for his cattle—but it became so dilapidated and tumbled down that it had been deserted and the boys took possession of it. Those boys could tell you all about old Fort Harrison and there were plenty of people alive in the fifties that had known the fort from the time it had been abandoned by the government until demolished. If

they were alive today they would be with me in stating that all the logs on God's footstool left of the old Fort Harrison were in that old block house stable.

LAST OF THE 'OLD FORT'

There were several old log cabins in the neighborhood of the old fort site in the early fifties, but no one claimed their cabins were built of the logs of the old fort. These people evidently did not know what a bonanza there was in store for them in having—or pretending to have—something to sell to the state or nation for perhaps ten times its value.

Anyone who ever saw a log and stockade fort would see the absurdity of such a claim as is now put forth by a citizen of Terre Haute.

The old fort stood during the Fremont campaign, and Chauncey Rose employed Gus Chamberlain, a boss carpenter, to look up some sound pieces of the old fort to be made into canes to be presented to speakers and prominent men in attendance at the meeting. Chamberlain tore down the old block house stable and secured three pieces that were sound enough for the purpose and were made into canes, and it was announced at that time, "This is the last of the Old Fort."

Traces of fortifications existed here as late as the Fifties, and the block house was preserved until 1849. After this, disappeared the old rotten logs, which for quite a while were lying around the

Early Business Centers Long Identified With T.H. History

Historic Landmarks (T.H.)

By A. R. Markle.

ONLY a few people realize that there are many buildings along Wabash avenue 100 years old or more that are still occupied; and that there are also a much smaller number of merchants whose names have been kept through the same 100 years. In no case, of course, are any of the people who were in business in those buildings still alive, but this story is built around those buildings which are still standing and occupied for 80 years or more.



A. R. MARKLE. There are, of course, many locations which are now occupied by newer buildings, but many of our older people still think of them as though they were still standing.

The Bement Store.

At the northeast corner of First street and Wabash avenue, George W. Bement first occupied this in 1851. When he was joined by W. S. Rea, they moved to the present site occupied by the Silverstein Bros., and the old stand was taken over by Bauermeister and Busch, whose successor is now The Bauermeister Company on the other side of First street. It is now the service department and warehouse of the Root Store.

This corner room in 1874 was occupied by Max Joseph, and the name though not the family (except son, "Lafe,") is still on Main street.

An Old Hotel.

At the northeast corner of Second and Wabash stands a hotel that is nearly 100 years old as it stands, but the upper floors as well as that portion of the building on Second street, are more than 100 years old.

Known now as the Indois Hotel it has known many other names such as The Stag and the St. Clair House which were the best known.

Locust Corner.

In the 1830's Judge Farrington erected a residence at the northwest corner of Third and Main.

It was a fine residence in those days and within its walls the first mass was held in 1938 for Catholic pioneers. After the home burned a business house took its place, and because of the large number of trees bearing the name it is known as Locust Corner. After Jerome Shandy bought the building he enclosed it in brick veneer, and it is now known as the Shandy Building. The upper floor was at one time the home of one of our early newspapers, the lower contained a drugstore while on the second floor, reached by an iron stairway on the outside of the building, is the office of John K. Fessler, the sole survivor of lawyers who once held forth as close to the courthouse as they could find quarters.

The Courthouse.

The present building falls short by ten years of qualifying for this story, for its cornerstone was laid in October, 1884. The old building that originally stood in the courtyard had disappeared many years before, and the only remainder was the iron fence that surrounded the square. This could qualify for the old fence, after having been removed to surround Collett Park later might claim Main street; although its resting place was only on the extension of Main street where Highland Lawn Cemetery faces the National Road.

Some of the oldest buildings in Terre Haute once stood on Third street north of Wabash, and east of Third street to the alley on Wabash.

These structures burned in December 1850, and in an account of the fire a newspaper reports that Union Row was saved because of its brick construction and iron shutters. The building now standing on this corner was dedicated in January, 1852, and on the upper floor was Occidental Hall which was provided with a stage. This hall was a musical and theatrical center for Terre Haute for many years. On the corner of the two streets was the business house of the boy bankers, W. R. McKeen and Demas Deming. When his father took over the First National Bank in 1863 he called his son to join him, and D. W. Minshall moved in with McKeen to form the firm McKeen and Minshall. The second floor of this row on Main street was occupied by many lawyers both before and after the completion of the present courthouse.

Community Affairs File

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Ancient Union Row.

On March 5, 1850, when Ludiwici and Hulman came to Terre Haute, the paper contained a notice that the buildings on Dutch Row were being demolished and a week later the paper noted that excavation had started for the erection of a three-story modern building. This building, as we have noted, escaped destruction by fire, because of its brickwork and iron shutters, and still stands almost as it was built more than a hundred years ago. At the corner of Fourth street in this block was one of the oldest drug stores, owned first by John H. Barr, who was succeeded by Gulick and Berry. George Huffman came next and continued for about 15 years.

Another Drugstore.

On the southeast corner of Third and Main were Eherele and Bindley, wholesale druggists, who were followed by Cook, Bell and Lowery. This firm was followed by Smith Hardware, who had earlier been on the north side of Wabash just east of First street, and under various owners from time to time held fast to the name of Smith. Now known as Smith

Hardware Store it has lost all connection with the name of the Smith family, pioneer hardware dealers in Terre Haute. This building as well as its eastern neighbors are more than eighty years old. The east half of this block on the south side of Wabash from the alley to Fourth street all dates back to 1853. At the alley corner, except for one period, always had been a seed store except when it was occupied by S. H. Potter with hardware and harness, and P. J. Ryan, the undertaking firm. On the second floor front, in Ryan's time, his embalmer occupied a room which was reached by an outside wooden stairway in the alley. Preceding Ryan this upper room was occupied by John T. Scott, father of our present venerable citizen George A. Scott. Another room east of this hardware store, which was lately the Savoy Theater on completion of the building was occupied by Francis Hulman who in 1857 bought the building at the northeast corner of Fifth and Main where Herman Hulman took over on the death of Francis and did business there as Hulman and Cox, and later Hulman and Company moved to their present location, Ninth and Main streets.

At the southwest corner of Fourth and Main, now occupied by the Court House Furniture Co., was the second home of the present Root Store then known as Ryce and Edsall, and after the death of Ryce, Edsall, McDougal and Company.

Naylor's Opera House.

In 1869 a building as it long stood on the northeast corner of Fourth and Main known as the Spinning Wheel, was demolished for the erection of the Terre Haute, or Naylor's, Opera House, which opened in 1870 was destroyed by fire in 1896. When it was ready for occupancy the Edsall and McDougal firm had undergone more changes with McDougal becoming associated to create the firm of McDougal and Knowlton, and again changed to become Hoberg, Root and Company, so for the first time the name Root comes into being as successor with Max Hoberg to Ryce, Edsall, McDougal, Knowlton, and Oakey. The latter had married Edsall's widow and became a member of the firm.

At the southeast corner of Fourth and Main a long two-story frame building opening on to Fourth street was the barracks of the enlisted men during the Mexican War, but in 1874 it was occupied by the present corner building which was in succession the banking house of the Bank of Southern Indiana which became The First National Bank, and stood there until it opened in the present branch bank in 1894.

We Have Now Reached Fourth Street.

And while it is still many years before the eastward tide of business passed these corners there are many eighty-year-old buildings farther east. Of these we will write next week.

T. H. Grew With National Road; Early Day Taverns Were Famous

By A. R. Markle.

In the early days of the Terre Haute business world, there was very little newspaper advertising. Although each place of business on Wabash avenue had a street number, the number did not correspond to those of the present day.

Any place of business, as a general thing, had a sign of some kind which might be just a man's name or some particular name describing the store, but in many cases was either a painted sign which fitted the business or a specimen of his stock in trade.

Many firms were usually known by some phrase that fitted the business. We see many similar names today, but of the others which have become famous, there is quite a long story.

The Taverns.

In those early days the name tavern had a far different meaning from that of today. It signified a hotel often large and ornate and many of these had a fame that reached out along the old National Road for hundreds of miles.

The first tavern in Terre Haute was the Eagle and Lion. Befitting its name, there hung out over the sidewalk a gaily colored painting depicting the American Eagle tearing out the eyes of the British lion, for there were many men who lived here or passed through here with vivid memories of the wars with England. It was built by Henry Redford who was among the first arrivals here and who bought the lot on the southeast corner of First and Wabash.

During the sale, two men had bought the lot at the southeast corner of First and Cherry streets and they either drew lots or Redford accepted the lot on which he built.

The Social Center.

Immediately following the sale, on October 30 and 31, he started the construction of a large two story log house with stables and wagon yards to accommodate the traveling public. The first courts were held here, the Masonic lodge was organized there and it was a popular place for local citizens as well as the public.

This later was known as Captain Wasson's Tavern.

A year later Samuel McQuilkin built another tavern at the northeast corner of Wabash and Market streets, as Third street was then known. This became known as the "Light Horse Tavern" and its sign represented Light Horse Harry Lee in full regimentals riding a gaily decorated charger. This was burned in the great fire of December, 1850.

The Buntin House was located on the east side of Market street, south of Ohio, and was for many years the principal stage station. Almost all of the stage lines started from the Buntin House. The sign on the outside stated that this was the office of the Western Stage Lines, Owen Tuller, manager.

Far out on the south side of the National Road, east of the railroad, was the National Road House. A very popular stopping place for travelers as well as a boarding house for nearby employees. Its sign displayed a four horse team drawing a stage down a mountain side, which indicated far off points that could be reached from here.

Chauncey Rose Relic.

At the northwest corner of Second and Ohio streets stood a small two-story building which saw the birth, in three of its rooms, of the Bank of Southern Indiana, the State Bank of Indiana and the Prairie City Bank. The building was owned by Chauncey Rose and on the corner room was a small metal sign "C. Rose." This sign still stood there long after the death of its owner.

On each of the sidewalk entrances to the Court House the architect has placed the initials V C, which helps to explain to us the location of the Vigo County Court House.

On the north side of Wabash, opposite the courthouse, stood for many years Fisbeck Harness Shop and its sign, so beloved of the small boys that time, was a life size white wooden horse. This animal still exists.

On the west side of Market street, between Wabash and Cherry, was the establishment of Isaac Ball, pioneer undertaker, who established the firm which has long passed its centennial. The profession was indicated by a small coffin. P. J. Ryan was on Wabash near Fourth.

"Pete" Ryan was hero of the Civil War, and there was hanging in his office a decorated framed certificate awarded to him by Congress. When pressed for details, Mr. Ryan would reply:

"Wasn't nothing. I took a division of Johnny Rebs with a few brickbats."

East of Market street on the north side of Wabash was a sewing machine agency of J. N. Hickman. A peculiar sign hung over the sidewalk representing the modern invention, the sewing machine. A model of this was an old hand-driven-type indicating that J. N. Hickman had for sale a modern wonder, the sewing machine.

A few doors east, Firman Nipert held forth the French Store, but one could not make a picture indicating French, so the name was printed over the doorway.

On the south side of Wabash above John Tatelman's Furniture Store is a large skylight which was the trademark, in its time, of all photograph galleries. But the gallery, as well as Eppert himself, has long gone the way of all things.

In the middle forties, Reinhard's Dry Goods Store, at the northeast corner of Fourth and Wabash, was called "The Spinning Wheel." This large wooden emblem hung over the sidewalk

and indicated that all sorts of textiles were to be found within. It also indicated the location of certain other points of interest. In an early newspaper is a mention "the post office has moved today to National Road street opposite the 'Spinning Wheel'" and when Frances Hulman and J. B. Ludowici dissolved partnership, in 1853, Hulman advertised that he had taken a small room with a small stock of goods "newly arrived by steamboat" and would open for business on National Road street, opposite the post office.

This building was demolished for the erection of the Terre Haute Opera House, popularly known in later days as "Naylor's Opera House." This was destroyed by fire in 1896.

Dear Departed Days.

Across the alley, to the north where now stands the Earle Hotel, was the former well known Cincinnati House, whose only sign was a representation of Gaius astride a beer barrel and holding up in sight an overflowing schooner of beer.

On the southeast corner of Fourth and Wabash was the first home of the First National Bank, whose location was indicated by a bronze sign, bearing its name.

At the northeast corner of Fifth and Wabash was the Hulman Store and on the west wall of it was a painted sign, reading "Established 1850."

On the southeast corner of Fifth and Wabash, Sigmund Loeb had for many years a hat store and out in front, mounted on wheels, was a large black bear standing upright holding to a post.

At the southwest corner of Sixth and Wabash once stood the building erected in the fifties by the Ludowici family, which was marked on the Wabash avenue front "The National House." Opened in 1854, it lasted well into the nineties.

On the northwest corner of Sixth and Wabash, McKee and Minshall, bankers, erected a building which still stands on that corner. Indicative of the banking business, over the main entrance was a stone statue of Minerva, while surmounting the highest point is a statue of Mercury.

On the east side of Sixth street, at the alley south of Wabash, stands a three-story building, which became quite well known in late years as Lederer's and surmounting each of the six columns, which supports the front, is a small shield, a sole reminder that for sixteen years this was the United States Post Office. High up on the front, near the cornice, a stone tablet marked this building as the U.S. Post Office.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

About halfway up the block on the north side of Wabash, between Sixth and Seventh streets, was for many years a china and queensware store of Theodore Stahl. Its front was ornamented with what we boys considered a remarkable sign. The surface of this sign read "Theodore Stahl" and in front of the name was a series of wooden strips somewhat like a venetian blind, except that they did not fold but stood out at right angles from the building. From a point directly opposite the store, these strips did not show and one read only the occupant's name, while from a point east from the store on the south side of the street one could read the sign painted on the east side of these strips "Queensware." Passing on along the street where one saw the west side of these strips it read "Chinaware," to the great astonishment of the small boy.

Still farther east, about where the J. C. Penney Store, now stands, George Zimmerman had a tin shop and suspended over the sidewalk was a large tin coffee pot, indicating the place of business as well as his occupation.

Opposite this on the south side of Wabash was Rippetoe's Grocery and he advertised his business by a very old lady wearing a bonnet and carrying a cane, on her way to market.

In the days when the north side of Wabash from the present Viquest's Store to Seventh street was a vacant lot, the east wall of this store indicated that "J. M. Dishon goes forth in haste with bills and paste to proclaim to all creation that men are wise who advertise in the present generation."

This store, however, was the home of V. G. Dickhout, who proclaimed his business as a trunk maker. His outer display was an old style wooden trunk, hung over the sidewalk.

Farther East.

Between Cherry and Mulberry on the old Canal, which is now Ninth and One-half street, was Eppinghausen with his stone yard. One could spend many hours watching the stone cutter with his wooden mallet and steel tool reproduce a likeness of a child, a marble angel or a wreath of flowers. One example of which can still be seen on East Wabash in the show window of Walsh Monument Company.

Two generations have come and gone since that stone was carved but it still retains the work of an artist in line.

Ohio Street Homes Give Way to Business District

Is APR 30 1972 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

On Ohio street, between 3rd and 4th, were the homes of George Brokaw and Charles Groverman, both long gone as the district was given over to business.

Ralph Tousey, one time partner of W. R. McKeen in his earliest venture as a banker after he left the old State Bank, lived at the corner of 4th and Ohio. The old Linton house stood in the middle of the block bounded by Ohio, Walnut, 5th and 6th streets, from which it was moved to Ohio street in the seventies. It became the office of Maumee Collieries.

On the southeast corner of 6th and Ohio stood the home of Newton Booth and his sister Elizabeth. In 1857, in that house, she married John Stevenson Tarkington and became the mother of Booth Tarkington, who was christened Newton Booth, but dropped the Newton, the name of his great-grandmother Mary Newton, of Woodbridge, Conn.

To the east of it stood the offices of the Wabash and Erie Canal, first occupied by them in December, 1853. As a residence it was occupied by Lucius Ryce and G. W. Bement.

Across the street was a house built by Curtis Gilbert and occupied by him before he built his country home east of the city (where the park is now on Wabash between 14th and 15th streets). Later John S. Beach lived there, whose wife was a daughter of Mr. Gilbert.

To the east of it was the home of Ezra W. Smith who disappeared one night after a party arranged for a great assembly but attended only by himself and his friend Judge Elisha M. Huntington who later settled the estate of Smith, declared legally dead. Later Huntington bought it and moved there from the Scott house at Third and Ohio. This later became the property of the Terre Haute Club and of the Y.M.C.A. James Turner lived there after the death of Judge Huntington.

Next, east of here, was the home of the Graff family and beyond it, James Turner lived in a house that had been occupied by S. S.

Early after he had moved from his old place at the southwest corner of Seventh and Ohio where the Indiana Theater is now. Following Early, this home was occupied by R. L. Thompson, whose Anchor Mill stood at the southeast corner of First and Poplar.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

Opposite this at the northwest corner of 7th and Ohio, was the home of Dr. Ezra Read who built his later and larger home at the corner now occupied by the Odd Fellows Temple at 8th and Ohio.

West of Thompson's on the south side of Ohio, where the Telephone building is now, stood the residence of Jacob D. Early and to the west of that was the home built by John P. Usher who left here to become Secretary of the Interior in President Lincoln's cabinet. Moving to Kansas to become attorney for the Kansas Pacific Railroad, he sold it to Herman Hulman.

Beyond this stood the home of Lucius Ryce, an early merchant of the city, whose brother Captain Harry Ryce was in the old Canal Office building.

Still farther east on Ohio stood the old home of Dr. Wood, later occupied by his daughter Harriet Coffroth, known in the early days as

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Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

Hallie Wood, a belle of the town. Her sister, Sidney Wood, was affectionately known as "Siddy."

On the southeast corner of 8th and Ohio stood the home of Patrick Shannon, a pioneer private banker. The house burned and Shannon started a series of suits against the insurance companies that rivaled the case of Jarndice vs. Jarndice. He later lived on the west side of 5th, the second house north of Park street.

To the east of it was the home of A. L. Chamberlain, an early builder here. The greater part, if not all, of the work done by Chauncey Rose was under the charge of Chamberlain. The old Prairie House, the present freight house of the Pennsylvania Railroad, many of the residences in Rose's addition and Subdivisions were his work and he was a partner of Tindal Madison in the build-Deming at the southeast corner of Walnut and 6th in 1842.

Opposite this house of Chamberlain's stood the house built by Arba Holmes whose modest foundry grew into the car and manufacturing plant between 9½ and the railroad, south of Wabash.

On the lot at the northeast corner of 9½ stood a row of four double houses, a story and a half in height, built by the priest of St. Benedict's, Father Pius Kotterer and pur-

KEEP HER HAPPY

SOUTH SHIELDS, England (UPI) — Seven-year-old Dawn Holden's daddy bought her a school just to keep her happy. Furniture store owner Victor Holden said Friday he bought St. Anne's private school for an undisclosed price because he heard it was for sale and worried it might go to someone who would want to change teaching methods. "My little girl has done extremely well there," he said. "She is happy with the school as it is and I want her and her friends to stay that way."

chased from him by Herman Hulman.

Returning to 6th street, at the northwest corner of Poplar stood a large frame house built by William J. Ball, engineer of the Wabash and Erie Canal, the Cross-Cut Canal, and a very early, if not the first, president of the Terre Haute Gas Light Company. The late William C. Ball was born in this house, the lot having been bought in 1848 and the house built soon after. In 1854 Mr. Ball sold to George E. Brokaw, who in turn sold to William B. Tuell in 1857.

After living in the frame house for some time, Tuell sold the house to Theodore Hulman, who had bought the half of a subdivision east and north of 6th and Park streets and started to build a brick house in the middle of the block. Advised by his brother Herman Hulman to build on one side of the property instead of in the middle and to

build only a temporary house until his wife was satisfied to live so far out of town, he bought the Tuell house and moved it to its location at the northeast corner of 6th and Park streets.

On the lot where it stood, Tuell built a magnificent dwelling and shortly before his death it is said (with no possible means of verification now) that he lost it in one of those super colossal poker games of the times. Whatever truth there may have been to the story, the deed itself names the consideration as \$80,000, and Lucy Hervey, the purchaser, to assume a mortgage for \$25,000.

Her husband, Robert G. Hervey, was the builder of the old Illinois Midland Railroad, later the Peoria division of the Pennsylvania Railroad. He seems to have paid but \$5,000 on the mortgage and the Sheriff sold it to W. R. McKeen in 1883 to satisfy a balance of \$20,000 still due.

Still more about homes of long ago in next week's column . . .

Historic Landmarks (WU)

It's economical to save the past

SEP 26 1985

By Dick Tuttle
Community Affairs File



TUTTLE would be after saving and restoration.

During rather stringent times it would be difficult, if not impossible, to raise funds to purchase and restore a building deemed worthy of saving. Very few buildings fall into the category of worthiness, and decisions must be made to strike some buildings off the list.

Further, economics also has a bearing on what the building will be after acquisition and restoration. Many become museums, others offices for a business willing to accept and maintain the structure. Others are just places to visit, showing how and what things were at the time the building was erected. Evansville has The Reitz House, a family residence restored and furnished in the period of more than a century ago.

Our historical museum here is a residence, filled with historical treasures, displayed in wall cases and on the floor. Four or five rooms have been furnished as bedrooms, a school room, the room of a seamstress. The museum is priceless.

The Allen Chapel on South Third Street is very old, has been restored and is used. The GAR Building, the first bank in Terre Haute, the State Bank of Indiana — Terre Haute, needs extensive maintenance, and is well worth the effort and investment. It has been used for some time as a war

museum, under the aegis of veterans' organizations. The structure is imposing, and apparently structurally sound, but more than cosmetic maintenance is needed.

There are two other buildings currently being viewed by the Preservation Alliance, one of which the Alliance owns, the Preston House on Poplar Street. The other structure is the Big Four Depot on North Seventh, partially demolished.

Considerable work would be necessary to restore the Preston House, and it would be rather costly. But this is the oldest home in Terre Haute, still standing and with a possibility of being restored. This could be a major historical and tourist attraction in Terre Haute, as well as being a project to develop the area.

Conrail, the owner of the Big Four Depot, decided at one time to sell the depot, then reneged after a local man made an offer. The excuse was it wanted the building demolished so the curve in the track east of the depot, could be

straightened a bit. Railroads being what they are, and railroad lawyers being expert at delay and procrastination, that change could be done sometime about the mid 21st Century.

But the depot represents a link with Terre Haute's past — four railroads, a junction point, four round-houses, a car shop, and street crossing delays at all times of day and night. Thousands of cars of products were shipped out of town. Thousands of cars of products were shipped in, even after the truck lines had taken over most of the shipping.

The Preservation Alliance should be supported in its efforts, focusing on the Preston House and the depot. It has other projects on its agenda, all worthy. The past is prologue, according to Shakespeare. We can preserve a part of it for the future.

Tuttle is a retired assistant editor of The Tribune-Star. He has since served as a Congressional senior-citizen intern.